FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 064 *2 April 1979*

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' [Beglov, Demchenko, Levin] CC 1
Israeli-Egyptian Peace Treaty CC 1
U.S. Reaction CC 2
U.S. Treaty Obligations CC 3
USSR's Position CC 4
PRC Aggression Against SRV CC 4
U.S. View of SALT Agreement CC 4
Brezhnev on Detente CC 7
WPC's Chandra Awarded Order of Lenin CC 7
Seminar of UN Associations Ends in Cyprus CC 7

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Brzezinski's Dangerous Views Ignore Contemporary Reality [Polyanov in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 25 Mar] A 1
Vance Reveals Aims of U.S. Policy Toward Third World [Gan] A 3
'Mutual Recriminations' in Washington Over 'Loss' of Iran [Zorin] A 4
U.S. Pressures Jordan by 'Freezing' Military Aid A 6
Dangerous Trend Seen Among Republican Presidential Hopefuls [Gribachev in NOVOYE VREMYA No 13] A 6

CHINA

Beijing Betrays Interests of Arabs in Mideast [Kulik] B 1
PRC's Subversive Activities in Afghanistan Criticized [Shirokov] B 2
U.S. Congress Passes Bill Adjusting U.S.-Taiwan Relations B 3
Beijing Shows Irritation [Kukushkin in IZVESTIYA 27 Mar] B 3
Beijing Reconciled to Agreement B 3
PRC Continues To Slander Laos, Thailand [(Sunichin)] B 4
Comment on PRC Celebrations of 'Heroic Deeds' [Mitin] B 4
PRC Increasingly Interested in Advanced Western Arms [Shishlin] B 5
Beijing Authorities Issue 'Notice' to Anti-Maoists B 6

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japanese Press Continues Provocations Over Kuril Islands [Stasov in NOVOYE VREMYA 23 Mar] C 1
Commentary Scores Japanese Defense Official's Remarks [Rozov] C 1
Japan's Business Circles Uneasy Over PRC Trade Agreement [Tsvetov] C 3
Trade Friction Between U.S., Japan Becoming More Acute C 3
Soviet-Japanese Fishing Commission Ends Moscow Session C 4

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan Continues To Liquidate Counterrevolutionaries D 1
Pakistani Terrorists Arrested D 1
Afghan Prime Minister Gives Interview to Indian Paper D 2
Taraki Addresses New Afghan Government D 2
Amin Introduces Members of New Afghan Cabinet D 3
Taraki Names New Armed Forces Commander D 3

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

More on Aftermath of PRC Aggression Against SRV E 1
Le Duan on 'Crushing Rebuff' E 1
Vietnamese Youth Solidarity E 1
[Ilinskiy in IZVESTIYA 27 Mar]
PRC Avoiding Talks E 3
NHAN DAN on Talks E 3
Crimes of PRC Aggressors E 4
VCP's Xuan Thuy Addresses Hanoi CEMA Conference E 4
Vietnamese CP Delegation Ends USSR Visit E 5
[PRAVDA 28 Mar]
China Continues Massing Troops on Lao Border E 5
Australian Defense Expenditures To Increase E 5

WESTERN EUROPE

French President Giscard To Visit USSR 26-28 April G 1
Giscard Interviewed on Visit [IZVESTIYA 29 Mar] G 1
PCF's Marchais on Struggle Against 'Integrated Europe' G 3
Features of Current Italian Government Crisis Viewed G 3
[Prozhogin in PRAVDA 25 Mar]
PCI Indispensable for Stable Government in Italy G 5
CPSU Sends Greetings Message to PCI Congress G 6
NEW STATESMAN Charges British Pilots Flying U-2's G 7

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Soviet Media Continue Comment on Egyptian-Israeli Treaty H 1
Studio Nine Discussion H 1
[Zamyatin, Zagladin, Zorin]
Petrov Article [PRAVDA] H 2
U.S. 'Dual Strategy' H 5
[Vinogradov in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 25 Mar]
Egyptian Opposition H 8
[Zlatorunskiy]
Military Implications of Treaty H 9
'Day of Land' Demonstration H 10
Egyptian Emergency Security Measures H 10
Gaza Mayor on 'Administrative Autonomy' H 11
Begin To Visit Cairo 2 April H 11
Syrian President's Message H 12
Baghdad Conference Delegates Agree on Action Against Egypt H 12
Desire Anti-U.S. Measures [Osipovskiy] H 12
Commentary on Baghdad Meeting [Krasikov] H 12
Conference Resolutions H 13

Tunisia, Kuwait Recall Ambassadors H 15
Jordan Breaks Diplomatic Relations H 15
Commentary Continues on Iranian Referendum on State Structure H 15
Arab Interest in Referendum [Timoshkin] H 15
Majority of Iranians Vote H 16

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Zimbabwe People Reject Upcoming Sham Elections [Belkin] J 1
U.S. Criticized for Sending Observers to Rhodesian Elections J 1
Muzorewa To Seek Closer Ties With South Africa if Elected [Butlitskiy] J 2
CPSU Central Committee Greets Congolese Party Congress [PRAVDA 26 Mar] J 3
USSR Sends Food to Drought-Stricken Cape Verde [PRAVDA 27 Mar] J 3

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Reports on USSR Muslim, Nationalities 'Problem' Derided [Pozner] R 1
Uzbek Efforts To Counter Religion Include Islam [PRAVDA VOSTOKA 23 Mar] R 2
Abkhazskiy Obkom Plenum Sees Need To Improve Law and Order [ZARYA VOSTOKA 22 Mar] R 2
Georgian Justice Ministry Organ Hits Defects in Legal Work [ZARYA VOSTOKA 22 Mar] R 2
Collection of Ustinov Speeches, Articles Published R 3
Brezhnev Greets Komsomol Members Bound for W. Siberia [PRAVDA 28 Mar] R 4
Brezhnev's Collected Works Issued in Moscow R 5
Fedorov Elected Chairman of Soviet Peace Committee R 5

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Difficulties in Developing Kansko-Achinskiy Fuel Complex [Prokushev in PRAVDA 22 Mar] S 1
Part Two of Report [Prokushev in PRAVDA 23 Mar] S 3
Radio Reports Spring Flooding in Various Regions of USSR S 4
Orel Region River Overflows S 4
Pripya River Floods S 4
Ukrainian Polesye Area [Kozachuk] S 4
Further Report From Ukraine [Ovramets] S 5

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Radio Reports Agricultural Progress for 30 March-1 April T 1
Mid-March Weather, Crop Development Assessed [Kirilecheva in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 24 Mar] T 2
Kolkhoz Farm Wages Increase Substantially Recently T 3
All-Russian Kolkhoz Council Meets in Moscow T 3
Briefs: Academy Meeting T 3

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Cosmos-1090 Space Exploration Satellite Launched 31 March U 1
Salyut Cosmonauts Continue Maintenance Work, Plant Research U 1
Correction Made to Orbit of Salyut Space Complex U 2
Scientists Working on Giant Telescope for Solar Orbit U 2
[Larin in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 24 Mar]
Turkmen Academy of Sciences Studying Solar Power U 2
[Kim in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 24 Mar]

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD011641 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program with NOVOSTI political observer Spartak Ivanovich Beglov; editor of PRAVDA's developing countries section Pavel Yepifanovich Demchenko; and all-union radio commentator Viktor Nikolayevich Levin]

Israeli-Egyptian Peace Treaty

[Text] [Levin] Good day, comrades. As you already know, the deal between Egypt and Israel, which is officially known as a peace settlement and was concluded under the patronage of the United States, was formalized in Washington during the week.

The practice of international relations knows of many agreements, the true content of which was discovered much later after their signing. An example of this is the Kellogg-Briand pact, which called for an end to war in words but in fact promoted preparations for World War II. I mention this pact specifically because, as Washington affirms, it was signed at the very same table on which on Monday, 26 March, the texts of the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel were laid as well as a whole series of appendixes and protocols which constitute an inseparable part of the agreement. In contrast to the Kellogg-Briand pact, however, the essence of all these texts is crystal clear even today.

[Demchenko] First, it should be pointed out that this is a matter not only of an agreement between Egypt and Israel but of a whole package of accompanying documents. These are appendixes to the agreement, protocols interpreting separate clauses of the agreement, letters exchanged by the governments of Egypt and Israel and letters exchanged by the leaders of these two countries and the U.S. President; finally, and quite unexpectedly, two memoranda were published, composed by the United States and Israel unbeknownst to Egypt, to cover the eventuality of Egypt suddenly breaking the provisions of the treaty. This memorandum aroused a sharp reaction, even embarrassment, from Cairo, which is put a priori in the humiliating position of a party breaking the treaty--all the more so since similar memoranda for the eventuality of Israel breaking the treaty apparently do not exist. Naturally, we can only obtain a full idea of the scale of the deal if we analyze all these documents, not just the treaty itself.

This is what they are about mainly: Egypt and Israel have undertaken to end the state of war between them over 3 years and in stages Israeli troops will withdraw from the Sinai Peninsula, which will be transferred to limited Egyptian sovereignty. In response, Egypt will permit Israeli ships to pass through the Suez Canal and in the Gulf of Aqaba and will establish trade with Israel, including oil from the Sinai deposits. However, all these provisions hide the fact that Egypt is thus turning its back on the struggle of other Arab people, in particular Syria, for the liberation of their occupied lands, and is betraying the interests of 3.5 million Palestinians, who are defending their right to establish their own state. The fate of this exiled people has become the key problem of the Middle East settlement. In the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, however, it is only formally broached and in essence consolidates the Israeli refusal to satisfy the demands of the Palestinians. In an interview with NEWSWEEK on the very day of the signing of the treaty, the prime minister of Israel, Begin, confirmed that thought with cynical frankness. He stated plainly: All that Israel is prepared to propose in subsequent phases of the talks is this autonomy for the population of the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip and certainly not autonomy of the territory. That is, the land will remain under Israeli control forever, even as East Jerusalsm. Moreover, Begin stated that there can only be talk concerning the Palestinians now living there; the two million refugees will never be allowed to return home.

Thus the crime committed against the Palestinian Arab people by Zionism has been consolidated. And here is an interesting detail to this situation: At the signing of the treaty President as-Sadat, almost as if confirming his fall from grace, forgot to read the few sentences on the Palestinians which were included in the initial text distributed to journalists.

[Levin] It needs to be said that, obviously, lack of comprehension of the true situation in the Middle East was also reflected, for example, in the American paper New York DAILY NEWS. It wrote: It is rather strange to see that the anger directed against the Egyptian-Israeli peace settlement arises not only, in its words, from the usual zealous opponents of Israel, such as Libya, Iraq and the PLO but also from such Arab states as Jordan and Saudi Arabia. But this is nothing strange and the surprise of the American papers testifies to the incomprehension regarding the true situation in the Middle East.

U.S. Reaction

Spartak Ivanovich, you have just come back from the United States of America and were an eyewitness to all these events; how did the broad circles of the American public receive the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian treaty? What is their attitude toward the role of the United States in Middle East politics?

[Beglov] This is a question which has many aspects. First, I would like to remark that when I observed how on American television and in the corridors of power in Washington everyone was united in showering praise on the merits of the separate deal, one noteworthy detail stood out. Not one of the politicians or commmentators, essentially no one, had worked out arguments about what this deal gives to the peoples of Egypt, Israel, since the people of Israel are also bearing great losses as the gulf between them and the other Arab peoples is deepening. [sentence as heard]

There was only talk of one thing, about American interests in the Middle East, about how the deal insures the American interests and, finally, about the kind of expenditure the United States will bear to secure this deal. Various figures were advanced: About $5 billion, then $12.5 billion in expenditure by the United States during the first 3 years that the agreement is in force, then there was talk already on the level of several tens of billions of dollars and so on. And all this was being presented as a profitable capital investment. It turns out that America is in some way buying a separate peace between Egypt and Israel. But beyond this material side of the affair, which shows how closely the imposition of its will on other peoples goes hand in hand with an openly mercantile approach in American policy--everything is bought or sold, including the ersatz peace, insofar as it is recognized as serving American interests--beyond this there is still the moral and political side. Many American observers have asked themselves how long the political capital that was made, as certain circles view it, from the production of this dramatic performance, will last for Jimmy Carter.

[Levin] In connection with this it would probably be appropriate to quote a statement from the West German paper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU. It wrote that the treaty signing ceremony between Cairo and Tel Aviv turned out to be a sort of Jimmy Carter show. This is a perfect illustration of the political aspect--I would even say political-propaganda aspect--of Washington's activities.

[Beglov] Apart from these outward effects, however, there is another side, that of American reality. At gasoline stations I observed the trepidation with which local car drivers devoured with their eyes every gas price notice. On some days the price jumps two or three times, so I could see one of the keys to the mood of the Americans.

Coupled with this is the alarm in connection with the far-reaching obligations which the American leaders have taken upon themselves over the conclusion of the separate deal. And if we study carefully the text of the memorandum and letters mentioned by you, Pavel Yepifanovich, that were exchanged between the administration and its partners in the deal, then it is not difficult to see the United States' obligations, written in black and white, to adopt measures not only to strengthen the military machines of Israel and its new client, as Egypt is known in the United States now, but also the right to interfere in the events in the Near East, should the course of events take a different turn from the one liked by the signatories of the deal, even to the extent of taking action of a military nature, not to mention the direction contained in the memorandum on the stepping up of U.S. military presence in that region.

U.S. Treaty Obligations

[Levin] The question of the U.S. military obligations, however, probably deserves special attention. On returning to Tel Aviv, the Israeli foreign affairs minister, Dayan, stated openly that the peace treaty was tantamount to an alliance between Israel, Egypt and the United States. Now there is already talk that as soon as Israel hands over the two air force bases in the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt the United States will commence talks with Cairo on putting one of these bases under American control in order, as they say in Washington, to strengthen American military influence in the Near East, which was undermined as a result of the revolution in Iran. Well, it must be said that the thought of finding a replacement for Iran as American gendarme in the Near East is visible in literally every statement made by Washington's leading officials in connection with the Near East problem and that is one of the main trends in the U.S. foreign policy activities in the Near East. Indeed, the obligations which the United States is taking on are great. It is clearly striving to chain both Israel and Egypt's war machines to their own. And you, Pavel Yepifanovich, have already pointed out that the element of inequality in the U.S. attitude toward Israel and Egypt can be seen in everything. And here is another example of this: Harold Brown, the U.S. secretary of defense, sent letters to the Israeli and Egyptian war ministers, Generals Ali and Weizman, which state that Egypt has been promised military hardware worth $1.5 billion over a period of 3 years, whereas Israel gets $3 billion, twice as much, just for the construction of two air force bases in the Negev Desert which are to replace those which Israel is leaving in the Sinai. Moreover, Brown writes that the United States is ready to supply Israel with a considerable quantity of additional military hardware with the aim of modernizing Israel's defense forces. In general, when such unspecific formulations as considerable quantity are resorted to, then this becomes particularly alarming. For this means that in its scale the deal is envisaged as being so extensive that it would be indecent to say the figure aloud.

[Demchenko] I would like to point out another detail, Viktor Nikolayevich. Recently both the Egyptian and Israeli leaders, as though vying with one another in devotion to the United States, are increasing their value, evidently calculating that they will thereby get more from their patron. And now the Egyptians are saying that Israel would never make a reliable gendarme in the Persian Gulf area because it has no friendly base there, whereas Egypt would cope better with this role. And possibly as a confirmation of this, agencies have now reported from the Near East that Egyptian troops have begun moving to the Libyan frontier. You are aware that the progressive regime in Libya holds an anti-American stand on many questions, specifically on the oil question. Americans have for a long time been looking for the opportunity to exert pressure on this regime. And now it seems that Egypt is beginning to undertake some action in precisely this direction.

[Levin] Gendarme actions.

[Demchenko] Precisely, gendarme actions so that it may thereby obtain more gratitude from Washington.

[Levin] Washington was probably perplexed or, more accurately, annoyed at the fact, too, that the separate deal evoked no enthusiasm even among many of the U.S. allies and among a whole number of West European states. The EC issued a statement which on the whole emphasized the need for an all-embracing settlement to the Near East problem. What also draws attention to itself is the French Council of Ministers' statement which points out that a just and lasting peace in the Near East can be established only by means of an all-embracing settlement based on the UN Security Council resolution and with the participation of all interested parties, including a representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

USSR's Position

[Demchenko] In connection with this I would like to particularly emphasize the position held by our country, the Soviet Union. This position was once again authoritatively confirmed during the visit made by our country's foreign minister, Gromyko, to Damascus. In the course of that visit questions of bilateral relations were examined between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Soviet Union as well as questions concerning the situation in the Near East. And once again, as I have said, our country's position toward a settlement of the Near East conflict was confirmed. This is: The withdrawal of the Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967; the establishment of rights for the Palestinian people, even to the extent of setting up their independent state; and finally, a guarantee of the security of all Near East peoples and states including both the Arab people and, naturally, the people of the Israeli state.

[Levin] And insofar as the deal formalized in Washington has nothing in common with these fundamental principles, the world reaction to it is appropriate. And, of course, the Washington politicians' surprise that their peace-loving action, in their words, is not meeting with understanding is a feigned surprise.

PRC Aggression Against SRV

It must be said that the attempt to conceal expansionist intentions with talk of peace is also characteristic of the Beijing leaders. As long ago as 16 March the Socialist Republic of Vietnam proposed beginning Vietnamese-Chinese talks on 29 March if all Chinese soldiers were withdrawn from Vietnamese territory by 28 March. All the indications are that Beijing, which is continuing its aggression against Vietnam, does not intend to do this; one must now, however, admit to expansionist plans. And then a primitive trick was put into operation: On 29 March RENMIN RIBAO published a commentary extolling in every way China's love of peace and putting the blame for the talks not starting on Vietnam. Well, it's the traditional "stop thief" ploy. It is impossible, however, to give a lie the appearance of truth. RENMIN RIBAO says, and I quote, at the moment when the Chinese delegation was ready to leave for Hanoi the Vietnamese side put forward absurd proposals--these are the words of RENMIN RIBAO I stress--in order to prevent the talks from being held. Note: absurd proposals. This is a strident but not specific phrase. What is the essence of the Vietnamese proposals? There is not a word about this in the commentary but the proposal really is that the Chinese should withdraw their forces from those areas of Vietnam in which they are still present. And if Beijing calls this just and legitimate requirement absurd then all the pompous verbiage about the Chinese side always, as RENMIN RIBAO goes on to say, being in favor of the peaceful settlement of disputes between China and Vietnam is not only untruthful; its aim is to hide the essence of Beijing's hegemonistic policy.

True detente has nothing in common with false declarations and concrete deeds serve as the criterion of truth.

U.S. View of Salt Agreement

At a press conference on 28 March Hodding Carter, a spokesman for the U.S. State Department, said that the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of strategic offensive arms were making progress. A public opinion poll carried out this week by the ASSOCIATED PRESS and the NBC radio and television company showed that the overwhelming majority of Americans are in favor of the speediest conclusion of a SALT-II agreement. Seventy-one percent of the U.S. residents questioned were convinced of its necessity.

[Beglov] During my recent stay in the United States many Americans told me that the moment when the fate of this agreement was finally decided would be the moment of truth for all America and for all American politics, in the sense that, as they said, that would be the moment at which it would finally become clear how sincerely the American leadership approaches the problems of detente and arms reduction, and at the same time the moment when it would become clear whether American policy really cherishes the fundamental interests of the people or whether it is still the prisoner of these circles and those forces which have other plans.

On the whole, one must say that American politics may be likened to, if you like, a coin: That is, it is not the same on both sides; it always acts with two faces. One side of the coin is shiny, bright and glitters and irritates the eyes; it consists of all sorts of stories, myths and prejudices which are utilized for self-interested purposes. The other side of the coin consists of facts and realities, the fundamental interests of Americans, which is often in a shadow. And thus, thanks to this, one might say, ambiguous nature of American politics it comes about that not infrequently the voice of the groups of monopolists who hold the levers to manipulate public opinion sounds louder than the voice of reason and commonsense.

This has a direct bearing on the debate about the agreement concerning strategic arms limitation. The mass of the American people, as well as many sensible politicians, and this will be shown by the latest public opinion poll which you have mentioned, Viktor Nikolayevich, fully recognizes the importance of this agreement as a step putting a brake on the arms race and consequently averting the slide toward thermonuclear war.

I heard confirmation of this more than once during the meetings and conversations I had during my trip. This sensible position, however, sometimes proves to be insufficiently reinforced with the appropriate resources--to be precise, with the resources to declare itself extensively, insofar as the press is controlled by reactionary circles or even by direct champions of the interests of the military-industrial complex.

These interests are by such recently-created organizations for working on public opinion as the Coalition for Peace Through Strength, or, say, the so-called Committee on the Present Danger, or the American conservative forces organisation. During my stay in Washington I managed to visit one of these organizations, to visit the headquarters of the so-called Committee on the Present Danger and to witness the birth of a new psychological subversion. This committee has introduced to the public its latest report which shuffles and reshuffles the facts to the effect, in particular, that the American public as a whole allegedly does not approve of SALT-II agreement. How is this done? What are the motive forces of this shady business? I have here in my hands this report. One of the questions is formulated thus: Are you for or against an agreement which by 1985 will insure the Soviet Union a 10-fold superiority in land-based missiles?

Recently there has been a considerable increase in the explanatory work of various organizations which are against the arms race and in favor of detente. New ones have emerged. Apart from the influential organisation called the Committee for East-West Accord, an organization has come onto the scene which calls itself Americans for SALT. That organization is trying to gain access to extensive circles with its platform. At the same time, it must not be overlooked that the champions and opponents of strategic arms limitation have by no means equal resources.

[Demchenko] Spartak Ivanovich, interesting information aboutthis is cited by the influential American newspaper the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. In an article on this very problem of the fight between the champions and opponents of the agreement, the newspaper adduces this information: The fight over the Senate ratification of the planned treaty is being won, and won easily, by the opponents of the treaty. Why? It turns out that the organizations which are trying to mobilize popular discontent with this treaty are spending 15 times--I repeat, 15 times--more money on the first phases of the coming battle in Congress than those trying to mobilize support for the treaty.

[Levin] Those are very eloquent facts and one might add that literally over the past few days reports have appeared about the organization of more sabotage from the group of senators which opposes the agreement.

We know that 29 out of 100 senators have clearly defined their stance and said that they will oppose ratification. It is alleged that these few senators who oppose the new Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty have received secret reports according to which the United States will, they claim, encounter difficulties in trying to monitor Soviet observance of the treaty and that they intend to make those reports public during the debates on the new arms agreement. Well, we have to say that Senator Jackson has already tried to take advantage of the fact that the Americans have had to remove their spy centers from Iran engaged in electronic surveillance of the Soviet Union in order to cast doubt from that angle, too, on the conclusion of the strategic arms limitation agreement. And although it has been very authoritatively explained to him that U.S. interests under the agreement now being formulated do not suffer from the closing of those bases, the thesis remains and of course the opponents of the treaty will try to play on it.

[Beglov] I also had occasion to visit organizations which are working to explain the positive aspects of detente and in particular are working quite hard to popularize the advantages of the strategic arms limitation agreement now in preparation. In particular, when I was in the headquarters of the organization called East-West Accord, I was shown books and brochures which the organization puts out in giving an audience to very influential leaders such as William Fulbright, the ex-chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Professors Galbraith and Kistiakowskiy. The latest report published by the committee, called "Detente or Catastrophe" and in essence wholly given over to the issue of strategic arms limitation, emphasizes the thought--according to one of the people active in the organization, George Kennan, who is considered a prominent specialist on Soviet-American relations and is a former U.S. ambassador to Moscow--in his words, it emphasizes that Soviet-American relations are now at a critically important point; either we shall go boldly forward, Kennan stresses, and confidently, acting imaginatively and flexibly in developing a new type of relationship with the Soviet Union in the military and strategic sphere or we shall subject ourselves and the rest of the civilized world to the dreadful danger involved in a completely uncontrolled nuclear arms race.

[Demchenko] In a word, Spartak Ivanovich, strategic arms limitation is a part of the great task confronting mankind in universal disarmament, that task which is in accordance with the national interests of the American and Soviet peoples alike and of all mankind as a whole.

Brezhnev on Detente

[Levin] I think that just now there is a very topical ring to those words in Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's answers to questions posed by the American TIME magazine concerning this very topic of detente. Leonid Ilich said: Detente is above all overcoming the cold war, moving on to normal, even relations between states. Detente is the readiness to solve disagreements and quarrels not by force, not by threats or saber-rattling but by peaceful means, at the negotiating table. Detente is a certain trust and the ability to take account of each other's legitimate interests. Each step toward detente is of enormous significance and in this context special attention should be paid to the coming 10th Soviet-French summit. As the official spokesman for the Elysee Palace, Hunt, has said, this meeting should emphasize the fundamental significance of detente and highlight the link between detente and effective progress in disarmament. The Soviet side also attaches prime important to this meeting. The forthcoming talks between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Valery Giscard d'Estaing will undoubtedly be a real contribution to the development of detente and the consolidation of peace. And, of course, we are counting very much on similarly real steps being achieved in relations with the United States, too, and in particular on the issue of strategic offensive arms limitation.

On that our broadcast ends. Thank you for listening. All the best to you, esteemed listeners.

WPC'S CHANDRA AWARDED ORDER OF LENIN

LD292006 Moscow TASS in English 1903 GMT 29 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 29, TASS--President of the World Council of Peace Romesh Chandra has been awarded an Order of Lenin for his great services in the struggle for peace and security of the peoples and on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

Romesh Chandra heads the mass organisation of peace champions, which includes representatives of the national organisations of more than 70 countries. He has devoted his life to the strengthening of unity of the democratic forces fighting against the arms race, imperialism and reaction, for prevention of a new world war, for relaxation of international tension.

SEMINAR OF UN ASSOCIATIONS ENDS IN CYPRUS

LD302020 Moscow TASS in English 1644 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Nicosia, March 30, TASS--A seminar of the World Federation of U.N. Associations has ended its work here. For three days prominent public leaders from 23 countries, including from the Soviet Union, discussed topical problems linked with implementation of U.N. decisions on questions of disarmament and ending the arms race.

Representatives of socialist and other countries in their speeches at the seminar highly appreciated the USSR's peaceful initiatives and proposals aimed at prohibiting weapons of mass destruction, ending the arms race and attaining full disarmament.

The federation called upon the international public to invigorate activities in the struggle for realization of the U.N. decisions and adoption of concrete measures aimed at ending the arms race.

BRZEZINSKI'S DANGEROUS VIEWS IGNORE CONTEMPORARY REALITY

LD301453 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 25 Mar 79 p 5 LD

[Nikolay Polyanov article under "Events and Judgments" rubric: "Doctrine of Dangerous Ventures"]

[Text] Some 15 years ago journalistic fate brought the author of these lines together with Zbigniew Brzezinski, then a professor at Columbia University in New York and director of the research institute of communist affairs. Our dialog did not last long: It followed from what my interlocutor said that he was fundamentally dissatisfied with the 20th century and the social revolutions which had changed the world. He was particularly angry with the Soviet Union and the socialist community countries, chiefly because they exist. In short, it was senseless to argue: The professor looked at the present from the remote past.

Many changes have occurred in the world since then. Only the views of the anticommunist with an academic degree have not changed. Whereas previously, however, only his students suffered because of this, things are different now that he has attained the high position of assistant to the President for national security affairs. His "assistance" to the White House could very easily prove to be a disservice. For when one is in very acute conflict with realities, it is impossible to chart a sensible political course among the stormy waves and underwater reefs of the modern world.

Also, the President's assistant aspires not only to charting the course but also to inventing the basic doctrine for Washington policy. Its essence is not noted for originality: If the world has changed, the author believes, then so much the worse for the world--it will have to return to its former state. Z. Brzezinski expounded his credo in roughly this spirit to the American publicist James Reston. "Today," he explained, "in the ultimate sense of the word national security means active U.S. participation in shaping the world so that it meets (U.S.--N.P.) national interests and accords with our values." In other words, the world must be fashioned to the old American pattern, and in no other way.

That was the prolog. There soon followed the first chapter, which made it clear that the President's assistant was particularly dissatisfied with vast regions of the Middle East and Asia, where, you see, increasingly less account was being taken of American values and interests. "A group of states on the shores of the Indian Ocean has become a crisis zone today," he told the same J. Reston. "It is a kind of 'arc of instability,' which can be traced on the map from Chittagong in Bangladesh through Islamabad and on to Aden."

Three months passed, and chapter two followed. It was set forth in a conversation between the presidential assistant and Johannes Steinhoff, a former general in the West German Luftwaffe who worked for several years as chairman of the Atlantic bloc's Military Committee and now heads the editorial council of the journal 15 NATO COUNTRIES. It was conceived as a jubilee interview: The "holy alliance" of American and West European reaction celebrates its 30th anniversary in April. It was as though the professor had decided that now was the right time to review the planet, to give free rein to his imagination and to specify the very canons which he would like to make the basis of American policies.

Let us state bluntly that the jubilee interview does not sparkle with novel ideas. Its author reaffirms that he disagrees with the present correlation of world forces (as though this disagreement changes something!), although he is forced to admit that the forces of the two worlds are equal: "At the present time we are dealing with a rough balance of military might."

But reluctance to take the realities of the age into account manifests itself in the fact that a logical conclusion does not follow the recognition of generally known truths. And so it is this time. Balance? Yes, but it turns out that in this connection the professor would like not disarmament and detente but, on the contrary, further fueling of the arms race. For this reason he discharges the entire cartridge clip of NATO demands, giving his interlocutor--the general--special pleasure. He glorifies the new program of militarist NATO spending for the eighties. He reminds the partners of the need for urgent "defense purchases" from the other side of the Atlantic. He criticizes the negligent--those of the allies who "can and must do more." He talks of "the defense of Europe," including "on the nuclear plane" (although West Europe has no one to defend itself against, and its increasing protests against nuclear ventures, particularly with neutron and "Eurostrategic" weapons, cannot be a secret even to Washington). And he discusses "European unity": It turns out that what should be understood by this terminology is just..."resolving the tasks of the alliance (that is, NATO--N.P.) and generally strengthening the West's might."

And so, the professor has not distinguished himself with any special revelations, unless you count one detail which dots the "i's." This is the author's attempt to justify extending NATO's sphere of action to global expanses, and though for three successive decades the creators of the alliance have sworn precisely that what they have created will not extend beyond the limits of the North Atlantic and in any case will not extend south of the Tropic of Cancer. But now, on the eve of the jubilee, in keeping with the presidential assistant's obliging explanations, the Atlanticists' appetites appear as follows:

"It is perfectly clear that the members of the NATO alliance will have to pay ever-increasing attention to events occurring beyond the treaty's sphere of operation. Thus, for example, the crisis in the Near East, in the Persian Gulf region, in the Horn of Africa region and in southern Africa could affect our countries' vital interests.... The NATO countries must be constantly prepared to tackle important problems arising outside the treaty's sphere of operation."

This, it turns out, is where the alliance of militarists is headed, and this is the course being charted for it by Z. Brzezinski! The Arab peoples are reluctant to reconcile themselves to the emergence of a Tel Aviv-Cairo "axis," are they? That is a prextext, if you please, for NATO interference. The Iranian people are putting an end to the shah's rotten regime and to American dominance? NATO urgently sounds assembly! The people in southern Africa are rising against slavery? And once again NATO reserves for itself the "right" to use force. Thus the Atlantic bloc assumes the role of world policeman of its own accord.

The same old conflict with reality! The same inability to understand that the Atlanticists will not be permitted to stick their nose into other people's affairs and dictate terms to other peoples. Africa's reply to the NATO landing in Zaire reminds us quite eloquently of this. As is known, the peoples do not ask anyone's permission for social changes. The events in Iran are a new example of this.

The doctrine of dangerous adventures, as formulated by the President's assistant, cannot have a future--it is nullified by historical development. Many Washington politicians are now realizing that it is senseless to turn the Atlantic ark into a big American gunboat--it has long since had its day. It would be far more sensible to give risky fantasies up as a bad job. The Washington POST recently pointed out, not without purpose, that even in the U.S. capital people frequently complain about "Brzezinski's strongly-worded public political statements." [paragraph continues]

And it added: "Carter has made it known to Brzezinski that he must keep to the background."

It seems that the President's assistant is so far plainly disregarding this imperative advice.

VANCE REVEALS AIMS OF U.S. POLICY TOWARD THIRD WORLD

LD311342 Moscow TASS in English 1314 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington, March 31, TASS--TASS correspondent Vitaliy Gan reports:

The United States intends to invigorate sharply political and economic-financial penetration of the developing countries with the aim of ensuring the latter's position as raw material appendages and champions of Western interests. This is the meaning of the speech by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at a conference in the city of Seattle (Washington State). He acknowledged that the attitude of the United States to the development of the Third World states is based on its own economic interests. We receive from the developing countries, he said, more than 50 per cent of tin, rubber, and magnesium, considerable quantities of tungsten and cobalt. These countries account for 45 per cent of the oil consumed in the United States.

The developing countries are an important commodity market for the USA. Cyrus Vance pointed out that at present the United States exports there more products than to the Common Market states, Japan and the socialist countries combined. They account for two-thirds of the total U.S. exports, which total 42 billion dollars. The secretary of state laid special emphasis on "aid" to the young states in the development of power resources. He outlined a programme of American "initiatives" in this field, which is actually called upon to place under U.S. control prospecting, development and extraction of oil and other fuel in the developing states. In his words, the U.S. International Development Agency requested 42 million dollars for the fiscal year of 1980 for the introduction of American technology in the power industry of the developing states. The U.S. controlled International Bank for Reconstruction and Development has appropriated nearly 10 billion dollars to finance various energy programs in those countries.

Washington attaches political strings to its disinterested aid. Thus, the secretary of state openly warned the developing countries that making demands, which the industrialized states cannot meet, will lead to international conflicts rather than progress. He implied by these unacceptable demands a mounting movement for the establishment of a more just international economic order that would be based on the principles of equality, non-interference in the affairs of the others and respect for national sovereignty.

Cyrus Vance claimed that there are no grounds for such demands by young states since, as he put it, distinctions between the industrialized and developing countries are allegedly disappearing. Facts, however, indicate to a further deepening of the abyss between the poor and the rich. According to the official figures of the International Monetary Fund, for example, the total balance of payments deficit of the developing states, which do not produce oil, will top 38 billion dollars this year.

The secretary of state has a matter of fact exposed one more aim of the American approach to the development problems of the young states--to prevent the creation of economic groupings of the type of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) that could effectively resist Western kiktat.

As followed from his statement, the USA attaches in this connection great significance to the series of agreements with the developing countries being drawn up by the Western states on a "stabilization" of prices of the most important kinds of raw materials.

'MUTUAL RECRIMINATIONS' IN WASHINGTON OVER 'LOSS' OF IRAN

LD010214 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 31 Mar 9 LD

["Moscow Viewpoint" program with commentary by Valentin Zorin, political observer of Soviet television and radio]

[Text] The latest political fashion in high places in Washington which has also caught on with the press is talk about who is to blame for the loss of Iran. The State Department boys blame it all on the Central Intelligence Agency, and the boys from Langley say it's the State Department which is at fault. The men at Congress all agree it was the slip of the White House and, as for the press which feels that no blame can be attached to it this time, it levels its attacks at everyone including the State Department, the CIA, the Capitol Hill and the White House.

The interesting thing about it all is that no one seems to ask himself the very obvious question: How can one lose something that has never belonged to the United States? This simple question seems to be against the whole imperial way of thinking that's prevailed in Washington over the past few decades. United States officials have long become used to the feeling that it is they who are in charge of political regimes and material resources which may be thousands of miles away from their own country. And there is really nothing new about the latest round of the politicians' game "who is to blame?" During one of the previous rounds of this game which occurred after the Bay of Pigs disaster the late John Kennedy made a very fitting observation. I think, he said, success has a hundred fathers but a failure is always an orphan. I think this wisdom fully applies to the current fit of mutual recriminations among the Washington officials. The who's to blame game goes on as before.

It seems the United States policymakers just can't drop the old habit of scapegoat hunting every time they find themselves in trouble. One would expect that the steadily growing number of such troubles in recent time would prompt them to stop blaming one another and look intosome real causes of their failures. Had it really been someone's incompetence at the CIA or the State Department, their (?leaders) would have certainly been able to correct the fault and insure a trouble-free performance of their staff for years to come. The incompetent elements of the system would have been dropped and replaced to guarantee the United States from all such costly and humiliating political flops. Any soberminded person would agree that the failure of the American policy involving the shah wasn't due to any particular U.S. agency fouling its job but because there is something basically wrong with the United States foreign policy strategy as a whole. I may even say at this point that Iran is not the end, as was demonstrated in the past by the successive examples of Vietnam, Greece and Spain, to mention just a few. In all these countries Washington placed its stake on some unpopular regimes and on U.S. interference in other countries' affairs.

One doesn't have to be a fortuneteller to be able to predict future rounds of the who's to blame game over Nicaragua, Chile and over other reactionary regimes in Africa, the Far East, the Middle East and Latin America. United States politicians and the press also blame Moscow whenever they face an unpredictable turn of events in some country which they always regarded as their traditional partner. And a certain section of the trustful American public swallows the bait, as has been the case with some recent events in Africa.

I really hate to disillusion these Americans by saying that the Kremlin conspiracy just doesn't exist. There is really something else at the root of U.S. foreign policy troubles. Washington invariably relies on outdated and unpopular regimes which are hated by the people in their countries. As for the Soviet Union, it always sides with peoples who are fighting for their freedom and national independence. This is not some clever Kremlin tactic but a consistent Soviet foreign policy. Thus one can say that Washington is really trying to swim across the current of history while the Soviet Union confidently swims with this current.

Looking back into their own history the Americans should know about the really omnipotent strength of a policy which is in line with the progress of history. At the time of the American revolution the poorly armed and equipped fighters for the freedom of the American colonies were able to score a historic victory over a much more powerful enemy. This was because they backed a just cause. One of the greatest paradoxes of modern history consists in the fact that the great country which had emerged from the flames of anticolonial struggle was now itself become a stronghold of neocolonialism. This great country backs some of the most reactionary regimes in the world including the regime of Pinochet in Chile, the South Korean dictatorship and some other outdated profascist military regimes like the Somoza clique in Nicaragua. This to my mind is the root cause of the setbacks like the most recent one involving the shah.

Of course it would be wrong to say that no one in Washington is aware of the real reasons of the United States policy failure in Iran. Speaking at a recent press conference, President Carter said the administration believes it shouldn't interfere in other countries' or peoples' affairs and try and decide what kind of government they should have. The President admitted that an attempt of this kind was made in Vietnam and ended in total failure. The President said he thinks that no responsible person in the United States wants American interference in the internal affairs of Iran or any other country. This to my mind was a really significant statement which indicates that the American leaders are trying to look deeper into their failures instead of just finding some scapegoats. But I think the President's statement requires some clarification.

The President made it sound that it was just on one occasion, in Vietnam, that the United States interfered in other countries' affairs. This however is against some well-known historical facts. People haven't forgotten about the American war in Korea, about U.S. Marines landing in the Dominican Republic and about both overt and covert attempts over many years to topple the lawful Government of Cuba. We all know the United States was behind the coup in Chile and the assassination of President Allende. And one could think of many more examples of open and secret United States interference in other countries' affairs.

I think the President was right in saying that the Americans do not want their country to meddle in other nations' affairs. I think this goes for most people in the United States. But there is no denying the fact that there has been U.S. interference in the affairs of Iran over many years and that this interference continues now. There is just no denying this fact. There is abundant evidence to prove, including U.S. press reports that the United States continues to give its support to some of the most reactionary regimes. The administration doesn't go beyond some verbal assurances that they've drawn the lesson of their political defeat in Vietnam. This being so, one can really rest assured that we shall see more such United States setbacks in the future and again there will be a hue and cry in Washington about who is to blame.

U.S. PRESSURES JORDAN BY 'FREEZING' MILITARY AID

LD301154 Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington, March 30, TASS--The House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress has frozen the granting to Jordan of 121 million dollars in the form of military aid in the fiscal years of 1980 and 1981. These funds were previously allocated to Jordan in conformity with the bill on military aid to foreign states for the next two fiscal years approved by the lower house of the Congress. The lion's share of this aid--almost 1,300 million dollars out of the 1,700 millions--is being allocated for strengthening the war machine of the Israeli aggressors. As noted by observers, Jordan aroused the congressmen's displeasure by daring to oppose the separate Israeli-Egyptian deal, drawn up under the aegis of the United States, and by refusing to join the subsequent steps linked with the establishment of an "American style peace" in the Middle East. It is common knowledge that the deal ignores the legitimate interests of the Arabs and has the purpose, primarily, of ensuring U.S. economic and military-strategic interests in that region. The decision of the House of Representatives points out bluntly that military "aid" to Jordan would not be given until the President assures the Congress that Jordan was displaying good will and a desire to achieve further progress along the road of finalizing Washington's "settlement" in the Middle East.

DANGEROUS TREND SEEN AMONG REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFULS

LD300927 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 13, 23 Mar 79 p 16 LD

[V. Gribachev article under rubric "Remarks, Rejoinders": "Right Turn!"]

[Text] They're off. Philip Crane, a little-known Republican congressmen from Illinois, is first to make a dash in the 1980 presidential election race. The others do not want to lag behind. The "Reagan for President" Committee was officially created 7 March. Nor are well-known Republicans such as J. Connally, H. Baker, G. Ford, Gen A. Haig and even former CIA Director G. Bush concealing their presidential ambitions.... There is a long way to the finish. But Republicans are already roaming from state to state, delivering speeches and criticizing with all their might the administration, the Democrats and primarily the White House foreign policy.

Connally warns: The new SALT treaty "will merely legitimize the Soviet Union's superiority over the United States in the strategic arms sphere."

Bush charges: The President has "rejected many trump cards" which could have been played at the SALT-II talks.

Baker intimates: The President is to blame for U.S. vulnerability to a Soviet first strike.

Reagan philosophizes: "What does it matter if you have the necessary weapons, if other people are convinced that you won't fight?"

And they all agree on one thing: The United States has "lost" Iran and other things. We should have intervened the way we did in the past and used force, they say.

And so, judging by the remarks of many aspirants, the right side of the Republican Party's political ship is becoming crowded. A dangerous trend.

BEIJING BETRAYS INTERESTS OF ARABS IN MIDEAST

LD301543 Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

["Beijing's Dangerous Rapprochement With Tel Aviv"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 30, TASS--TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik writes:

In the days when China yet pretended to be a "friend" and "ally" of the Arab peoples, it was a habit to repeat in Beijing: "We do not intend to recognize Israel even one thousand years from now." Today China is hastening to establish official relations with this main ally of Washington in the Middle East. The weekly MIDDLE EAST REPORTER, which comes out in Beirut, points out with reference to "reports available in usually very well informed circles," that China even intends to establish diplomatic relations with Tel Aviv.

This [word indistinct] is a perfectly logical step along the road of Beijing's betrayal of the interests of the Arab peoples. It is not without reason that the Cairo press is publishing prominently these days reports from Beijing on the latter's backing of the [words indistinct] Egyptian-Israeli collusion, quoting pronouncements by Geng Biao, vice-premier of the People's Republic of China, to the effect that "China no longer insists on the liberation of all the Israel-occupied Arab lands."

It is indicative that the Sino-Israeli rapprochement is proceeding under the aegis of the United States. As reported by the Palestinian newspaper AL-KAIDA, a tacit agreement on military cooperation has already been reached between Beijing, Tel Aviv and Cairo with the "blessing of the United States." "This cooperation," the newspaper points out, "provides for the delivery to China of arms purchased by Egypt in the West, and for Israeli assistance to Beijing in the production of this weaponry in China proper, for the dispatch to China of Israeli war experts."

Even more accusatory facts for Beijing came to light after the documents of Israeli and Chinese special services were seized in Tehran. It is now clear that these special services had cooperated for a long time and not only between themselves, but with the shah's secret police (SAVAK), too.

According to the Lebanese weekly AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI, Chinese special services in Tehran provided the Israelis with information on the activities of Palestinian organisations. To obtain this information the Chinese made broad use of Maoist groupings operating in several countries. These outrageous facts have proved once more that the Beijing leadership supported only by word of mouth the just struggle of the Palestinians, while in reality it always sided and sides with those who are suppressing the Palestinian people.

Now that Beijing and Tel Aviv are making steps to legalise their relations, China's sinister role in the Middle East may only increase. Many foreign policy commentators note that China's rapprochement with Israel and Egypt fits perfectly into the Washington-hatched plans to create a military-political alignment, which will rally together all the reactionary forces of the Middle East against the progressive regimes and national liberation forces in that region.

One of the most attractive features of this police alliance for China is the anti-Sovietism of its initiators, the opportunity offered by such a bloc to perpetuate tensions in the Middle East.

The Arab nations have long since discerned the true purposes of Beijing's policy, which contradicts completely the interests of peace and progress in that region.

"The present course of China," says the Lebanese newspaper AL-LIWA', "is dangerous precisely because Beijing is aligning in the Middle East with the imperialist circles, is basing its policy on hostility towards the Soviet Union and other socialist nations, towards the nonaligned states."

PRC'S SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES IN AFGHANISTAN CRITICIZED

LD312258 Moscow TASS in English 2124 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

["Beijing's Intrigues in Afghanistan"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 31, TASS--TASS commentator Oleg Shirokov writes:

At a time when a wave of indignation and protests in connection with the Chinese hegemonists' piratic attack on Socialist Vietnam is mounting around the world, facts which are indicative of their irresponsible adventuristic actions against other countries, too, including actions against Democratic Afghanistan come to light.

Beijing is known to have taken a negative stand with regard to the changes which have occurred in Afghanistan. Beijing was one of the last to recognize the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

After the establishment of the DRA, representatives of China in cooperation with the external and internal enemies of Democratic Afghanistan launched behind-the-stage activities aimed at undermining the positions of the new order, at destabilizing the situation in the country and at boosting the activity of clandestine groups hostile to the government.

In their dirty subversive work they made use of the clandestinely operating anti-popular scum including the pro-Beijing grouping Sholy Javid and the reactionary nationalist organization Setame Melli. According to available data, representatives of Beijing in Afghanistan are busy inclining the leaders of the reactionary grouping of so-called "Moslem Brothers" to acting jointly with the criminal elements from the Sholy Javid group for the purpose of knocking together a common anti-government bloc.

One of the forms of the activity of Beijing agents in Afghanistan is to distribute leaflets slandering the new, democratic order.

But things are not limited to that. Beijing's henchmen took an active part in the recent anti-government actions in Herat organized by reactionary Moslem clergy supported by foreign forces hostile to Afghanistan.

Earlier, in January in the selfsame Herat, there took place a congress of pro-Chinese elements. At that congress an attempt was made to unite the separate Maoist and nationalist groupings. According to available data at that gathering, agreement was reached, in particular on the unity of actions between the Sholy Javid and the Setame Malli.

Early in March, an armed band at a strength of about 1,500, organized by Beijing agents, moved to the outskirts of Kabul. Its ringleader, a certain M. Kalakani, stated readiness to join in any action against the government of the DRA, in the criminal anti-popular attacks by the "Moslem Brothers" reactionary grouping, in particular.

The fact that Beijing supplies bands operating in a number of Afghanistan's provinces with Chinese arms is finding an increasing confirmation. One of such bands armed with Chinese-made submachine guns was rendered harmless by the DRA's security bodies in the city of Badakhshan last year.

According to reports of the foreign press, Chinese instructors participate in the training in Pakistan's territory of saboteurs from among Afghan counter-revolutionary elements.

The Maoists' subversive activity in Democratic Afghanistan indicates that Beijing's great-power, hegemonistic aggressive policy creates a serious threat to peace and security of all countries and peoples.

U.S. CONGRESS PASSES BILLS ADJUSTING U.S.-TAIWAN RELATIONS

Beijing Shows Irritation

LD301421 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Mar 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Unattributed "rejoinder" from "The Day Worldwide" feature prepared by V. Kukushkin: "First Disagreement"]

[Text] An AFP dispatch from Beijing stresses: "The first cloud to darken the Chinese-American idyll was recorded on Saturday...."

The essence of the difficulties which have emerged in the relations between the United States and China is set forth with noticeable irritation in a report by Beijing's XINHUA. It points out, in particular, that PRC Foreign Minister Huang Hua has met with U.S. Ambassador in Beijing L. Woodcock and has made representations to him in connection with the approval by the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives of bills on American-Taiwanese relations. In Huang Hua's opinion, the bills "violate the principles on which the PRC and the United States agreed when establishing diplomatic relations." If the bills are passed in their present form they "will greatly damage the new relations established between China and the United States." The minister demanded that the American Government utilize its influence and official rights to prevent the final adoption of the bills.

It looks as though the Beijing rulers are already taking the liberty "as friends" of interfering in U.S. internal affairs and lecturing the American administration on how it ought to influence and pressure its own country's legislators.

Beijing Reconciled to Agreement

LD311225 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1900 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A TASS correspondent reports from Washington:

The U.S. Senate has approved the bill which adjusts relations between the United States and Taiwan in light of the normalization in relations between Washington and Beijing. The day before it was approved by the House of Representatives of Congress and has now been dispatched for the signature of the U.S. President.

The American press is paying attention to the fact that the bill leaves untouched the whole complex of American-Taiwanese political, economic and other links. The bill thereby fixes juridically Washington's unchanging policy of two Chinas in its renovated form.

In connection with this the question arises--just how will this course be seen by Beijing, which earlier publicly declared the concept of two Chinas to be anathema? Facts bear out that the Beijing leadership has virtually reconciled itself to the new status of American-Taiwanese relations. True, for the sake of appearances, China protested against the bill. However, Washington is not inclined to take this formal demarche seriously. The U.S. State Department analyzed the protest and came to the conclusion that it was far from being of a resolute nature.

The reason for the discrepancy between the publicized principles and the practical deeds of the Maoist leadership is clear. Beijing is still far too interested in preserving its present relations with the United States.

PRC CONTINUES TO SLANDER LAOS, THAILAND

OW010806 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 30 Mar 79 OW

[(Sunichin) commentary]

[Excerpts] The Beijing XINHUA allegations that resentment and dissension are mounting among the soldiers and people of Laos and that they are being suppressed are all lies. These lies are aimed at undermining the unity of the Laotian people and are intended to serve as a pretext for China's invasion of Laos.

Citing facts, the Lao Foreign Ministry recently revealed the Beijing warlords' attempt to invade Laos. Two Chinese battalions have already intruded into Laos and Chinese military personnel have occupied as many as 10 kilometers of Laos' [word indistinct]. Beijing has amassed a large number of troops along the Lao border and dispatched saboteur teams into Laos.

Impudently insulting the Southeast Asian nations and trying to disrupt their respective national unities, the Chinese leaders intend to carry out an adventurist policy in Southeast Asia. They have done this in Vietnam and the Chinese propaganda machine is now employing rough tactics against Southeast Asia. Even now radio broadcasts originating from within China are slandering the leaders of member countries of the ASEAN and are instigating people to rise up and rebel. The Beijing XINHUA recently quoted the Voice of the People of Thailand, a hostile radio station in Thailand, and called the legitimately elected Thai Government a fascist, reactionary and traitorous ruling clique.

Slandering the internal situation of Laos, the Beijing leaders have completely torn off their mask of friendship toward the Laotian people and have fully revealed their intention to grossly interfere in the internal affairs of Laos, a sovereign state in Southeast Asia.

COMMENT ON PRC CELEBRATIONS OF 'HEROIC DEEDS'

OW311150 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 29 Mar 79 OW

[Mitin commentary]

[Text] Among the China events recently reported by both Chinese and foreign press, the most attention-getting have been those held in praise of so-called "heroic exploits" or, in other words, praising the officers and men who participated in the war of aggression. Some papers have reported that central delegations have gone to Guangxi and Yunnan to comfort the fighters who took part in the aggression. Some newspapers have also published news about the "meritorious service celebration meetings" and other "heroic deeds" of the fighters "who fought on Vietnamese land, never feared death but won splendid victories." What's the intention of this propaganda? Our station observer Mitin makes the following remarks:

It is no surprise that the Chinese authorities are inciting war mania. Those who led the central delegations to South China to comfort the fighters are not low-level personnel but the high-ranking Chinese officials Wang Zhen and Fang Yi, members of the Political Bureau of the CCP Central Committee and vice premiers of the Chinese State Council. This shows that Beijing attaches much importance to these comfort activities.

What is the purpose of this action by the Beijing socialist militarists? I think their primary reason is to boost the morale of both the people and the soldiers and, to a certain degree, also dispel the feeling of defeat. No matter how the newspapers boast about "glorious victories," the fighters who actually fought on the battlefields have the true picture in their own minds. The war of aggression against Vietnam neither ended in victory nor demonstrated a concerted action. Since the fighters who have returned to their homeland have the correct information about the war, this information will eventually spread among the local communities and more and more Chinese people will know the truth about the war. Paper cannot be used to contain a fire. This is why the Chinese leaders were determined to launch a nationwide patriotic campaign. In so doing, they can brainwash those soldiers and workers who are contaminated by antiwar germs.

Furthermore, judging from all available indications, Beijing has not learned the necessary lesson from the war of aggression against Vietnam. It appears that it is preparing for another war. The press of India, Indonesia and other Southeast Asian countries report that China is continuing to concentrate its armed forces along the Laotian border and is increasing provocations against this country. Western observers also note that the current situation is very similar to the conditions prevailing on the eve of the Chinese invasion of Vietnam.

In view of the above, it is not accidental that China is creating a great upsurge of militarism. This may be a step in its propaganda preparations for a new adventure that will again bring serious losses to the Chinese people just like its recent adventure.

PRC INCREASINGLY INTERESTED IN ADVANCED WESTERN ARMS

LD310328 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Nikolay Shishlin commentary]

[Text] The foreign policies of the current Chinese leaders are attractive to the West. Her sustained hostility to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries seems to make China a factor of pressure on the socialist world. It's enticing to use this factor for the politicians whose philosophy is reduced to dreams to replay the historical changes that have taken place in the world after the Second World War. On the other hand, a certain part of business quarters in the West are blinded by a prospect of getting large orders for various products from China. They regard China as a giant market, the use of which holds out a promise of long economic prosperity for the capitalist world.

But it must be noted that although China shows an interest in the wide range of goods made in the Western countries, it's chiefly attracted by modern arms. In 1977 and 1978, more than 60 Chinese delegations went to European capitalist countries and there were 19 military ones among them. It's been calculated already that China shows an interest in almost 5,000 kinds of modern weapons and military equipment made in the West. These include British Harrier and French Mirage planes, Milan and Hot antitank missiles, helicopters, tanks, torpedoes, acoustic instruments and so forth.

Some of the deals are near the practical stage. That applies to deliveries of British Harrier aircraft. The United States seems to be standing aside of these deals by European companies. But it is itself supplying China with products in the so-called gray zone, which can be used both for peaceful and for military purposes. But then, many of the things arms merchants are ready to supply to China are made under American licenses. Is this commerce or a policy? It's both, but it's a dangerous policy and dangerous commerce.

It's indicative that China's aggression against Vietnam was accompanied with a noticeable drop in the interest of the Chinese in nonmilitary trade agreements. The Japanese felt this when Beijing informed them of a delay in a proposed expansion of the steel mills in Wuhan. China's European partners feel this, too. In any case, their planned volumes of trade with China are actually well below the original outlines. It must also be said that China's four modernizations may seem good on paper but the paper plans cannot be reliable bridges across the ravines that were formed in the Chinese economy following the Big Leap and the Cultural Revolution. China feels enormous difficulties. These include an acute shortage of skilled personnel, archaic transport, a weak energy base, an imperfect management, machinery and many other things. The Beijing rulers are obviously beginning to realize that the conditions are unfavorable for carrying out their ambitious plans, that is for a big upsurge of economic development. And so the plans are cut back: There's already talk in Beijing that attention should be concentrated on agriculture, that it's necessary to introduce an elementary order in transport and only then start launching modern production.

Yet plans are not being changed in one field. This is modernization in the army. In this field, Beijing is ready to be generous at the expense of civilian branches of the economy, the more so that its adventures in Southeast Asia have been rather instructive in the military sense, too. The several hundred thousand Chinese soldiers who were moved into Vietnam, have been forced to return home and to being well beaten. Yet no one can guarantee that Beijing won't launch more military adventures.

BEIJING AUTHORITIES ISSUE 'NOTICE' TO ANTI-MAOISTS

LD311842 Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

["Tightening the Nuts"--TASS headline]

[Text] Beijing, March 31, TASS--The city authorities of the Chinese capital issued a "notice" in which they remind that henceforward such measures as arrest and prosecution will be applied still more widely against those who come out against "the ideas of Mao Zedong and the leadership of the CPC".

The pasting up of wallposters and streamers which in some or other way criticise the existing order is prohibited in the city.

The "notice" is calling for "delivering a resolute blow" at, what it calls, "an 'extremely small number' of anti-Maoists."

As is reported by the BEIJING RIBAO, at a session of the Beijing "revolutionary committee" it was said that the situation in the capital "is being darkened" at present by the actions of "a small group" of seditionaries.

Local observers associate these measures of the Beijing authorities with the population's mounting discontent over the policy of the present leadership, as well as with a step-up of the struggle for power in the Beijing ruling group.

As the FRANCE PRESSE news agency reports, about ten members of the CPC CC, among them some members of the Political Bureau, were removed from work. Part of them formally retain their party and state posts while in actual fact they are under house arrest.

The decision on removing the above-mentioned persons from work, according to the agency, was taken at a CPC CC plenary meeting which was held in December.

JAPANESE PRESS CONTINUES PROVOCATIONS OVER KURIL ISLANDS

LD301321 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 13, 23 Mar 79 pp 16-17 LD

[L. Stasov article: "Tokyo Cookies"]

[Text] The Japanese say: You can draw a cookie, but you won't get fat on it. However, some people in Tokyo are ignoring the popular wisdom and continuing to draw cookies, and also to photograph them.

The MAINICHI DAILY NEWS recently frontpaged a photograph which could not be called interesting: sea, clouds, and ice hummocks. Attention was attracted by the caption: "On this photo, taken by an American satellite, you can see the snowcovered islands of Iturup, Kunashir, Habomai and Shikotan.... The four Soviet-occupied islands can be seen in the middle and lower part of the photo." The demand for this kind of anti-Soviet photocookie is created by the supply. The newspaper went on to report that various organizations will soon be able to obtain such photographs regularly. It must be assumed that they will also appear regularly in certain Japanese press organs, with an appropriate text.

Not long before, representatives of the biggest Japanese papers decided to fly along the Soviet borders in specially hired planes. As a result, photographs of the Kuril Islands were published with this commentary: "The Soviets are building military installations in close proximity to our territory." In other words, run for your life! This venture was of such a provocative nature that even specialists from the Japan Defense Agency stated: The "installations" depicted in the photographs, "if they really exist, are of a purely defensive nature."

People in Tokyo like talking about a "multifaceted policy" and a "policy of equal distances," meaning the development of normal relations with all countries. But attacks of anti-Sovietism, accompanied by the appearance of photocookies, can only increase the distance from Tokyo to Moscow. At the same time, the distance between Tokyo and Beijing is being rapidly reduced. Ryukichi Minobe, governor of the Japanese capital, went to the PRC during the Chinese aggression in Vietnam to sign a protocol on making Beijing and Tokyo twin cities. Friendship between the capitals of different countries is a good thing, without doubt. The timing of the trip to Beijing indicates clearly that certain Tokyo politicians are still gambling on rapprochement with China, and this even at a time when the Chinese leadership has created a crisis situation in Southeast Asia and has exacerbated relations with those countries with which Tokyo intends to implement the "policy of equal distances." Counting on big dividends from rapprochment with China, Tokyo, it seems, is also drawing cookies--cookies on which it will not get fat.

COMMENTARY SCORES JAPANESE DEFENSE OFFICIAL'S REMARKS

OW011303 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 0830 GMT 31 Mar 79 OW

[Leonid Rozov commentary]

[Text] Civilian and military officials of the Japan Defense Agency and other people in official quarters have lately been seen more frequently calling for an increased war potential for the nation. In doing so, they invariably refer to a "Soviet military threat." In this connection, Radio Moscow commentator Leonid Rozov writes:

Testifying before the House of Councillors Budget Committee recently, Defense Agency Director General Yamashita referred to a nonexistent military threat and declared that the military balance between the USSR and the United States has changed, and that the situation surrounding Japan has worsened drastically.

Nagano, chief of staff of the Ground Self-Defense Force [GSDF], was even more outspoken. Talking to a group of business leaders who are members of the National Defense Council, he called for a further buildup of the nation's armed forces, stressing that the government should review its national defense program. In doing so, he cited as a pretext the "basic change in the situation surrounding Japan," as if to claim that the Soviet Union is increasing its military strength.

These remarks are very similar to those by U.S. generals and senators demanding increases in defense spending and opposing detente. As for their comment on the Soviet military strength, it should be noted that the USSR, of course, has sufficient war potential of its own to defend itself against all kinds of aggressors. Nevertheless, the USSR has never threatened anyone and is not threatening anyone now. The primary goal of the Soviet Union is the well-being of its people and the consolidation of world peace. Hegemonism, interference in other nations' domestic affairs and military adventure have nothing to do with Soviet policies. Various Soviet initiatives for peace are known to the whole world. Many remarks by Japanese official quarters also recognize the fact that the USSR is contributing to easing international tensions. Japanese military leaders also must be aware of this fact. Even the Defense Agency's director general noted the defensive nature of Soviet activities.

The Soviet Union obviously has done nothing that would provide any pretext for the "Soviet military threat" fuse. The true reason for statements by the Defense Agency's leading officials about the "worsening" of the situation surrounding Japan lies in a new plan of those promoting Japan's militarization, not in Soviet activities. Time will tell what specific results they are trying to achieve with these utterances. Nevertheless, events in Japan during recent years provide a basis on which we can forecast many things.

High-level Japanese officials are currently considering plans to turn the Self-Defense Forces into an "effective deterrent." As everyone knows, however, there is no limit to the greed of militarists, and no one can define the exact level of Japan's war potential that would serve as an "effective deterrent" for the nation under present circumstances.

Furthermore, plans to turn Japan into a second gendarme in Asia--the United States being the first--are being drawn with increasing clarity. In connection with these plans, which are related to the planned move of U.S. military units from the Far East to the Indian Ocean, the Defense Agency voiced its hopes for successfully contributing to the Japan-U.S. security system. In other words, it expressed its acceptance of Japan's role assigned by the United States. GSDF Chief of Staff Nagano in his recent speech made no attempt to conceal the U.S. demand that Japan increase its war potential and strengthen its military role in Asia. The pretext of a "change in the situation surrounding Japan" and "Soviet military buildup" is designed to justify a campaign for Japan's remilitarization. Some people even hope that it will justify the current payoff scandals such as the one involving Grumman's E-2C aircraft.

Japan's military spending is increasing rapidly. Its present expenditure is the same as that of Britain, a military giant.

It is indeed noteworthy that every step that Japan takes on the road to remilitarization is accompanied by the pretext of "Soviet military threat." Such remarks by official Japanese quarters make one recall the worst days of the cold war era when the Japanese armed forces were organized and the Japan-U.S. security treaty signed. One might even feel that certain circles in Japan are indeed trying to push the country back to the cold war era. The militarist policy, however, is inconsistent with remarks by other offical quarters--remarks expressing a desire for peace and stability. The fanning of war hysteria and the ambition for pushing the nation back on a path of militarism have encountered resolute opposition from the broad strata of the Japanese people, although they are wholeheartedly supported by the Pentagon and Beijing.

JAPAN'S BUSINESS CIRCLES UNEASY OVER PRC TRADE AGREEMENT

OW011523 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 31 Mar 79 OW

[Vladimir Tsvetov commentary]

[Excerpt] In Tokyo, Japan and China ended their trade negotiations with the signing of a memorandum. Moscow Radio Tokyo correspondent Vladimir Tsvetov makes the following comments on the results of the Japan-China trade negotiations:

According to the memorandum, the Japan-China trade agreement which was signed in February 1978 has been extended from the original 8 to 13 years. This fact proves the view that the economic modernization plan, the foundation of Chinese trade, will not be attained so quickly. It is generally agreed among Japanese business circles that China will not be able to make effective use of plants to be imported from Japan because of its electric power shortages and extreme backwardness of its auxiliary industrial sectors which are indispensable to modern metallurgical and machine-building industries. Accordingly, anxiety is rising among Japanese business circles that China may not be able to raise enough foreign exchange funds or material resources to pay for its plant imports. Extension of a trade agreement by some 5 years is not enough for accumulating sufficient funds.

It is well known that the main objective of China's four modernizations is to beef up military potentials to achieve its hegemonist ambitions. Needless to say, this is drastically reducing its solvency. The memorandum aims at increasing Japanese-Chinese trade two to three times by 1990. Japan did not provide concrete figures for the proposed increase in trade, thus showing its distrust in China's ability to export oil and coal and clarifying that it has no intention to buy large quantities of crude oil from China.

Japanese business circles are aware that China's per capital oil output is no more than one-thirteenth of the world's average. Besides, Chinese oil is of poor quality and the Japanese power and oil industries cannot consume it in large quantities. The memorandum says that during trade negotiations in April, a decision will be made on the fate of 22 plant import contracts which China has suspended. But there is no hope that these contracts will be fulfilled because China is shifting its emphasis from heavy to light industry. This means a loss of $2.1 billion in revenues for Japan.

TRADE FRICTION BETWEEN U.S., JAPAN BECOMING MORE ACUTE

LD302340 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1543 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 30, TASS--TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The United States has broken off talks with Japan on the issue of government orders.

The matter relates to attempts by Washington and Tokyo to agree on conditions for American and Japanese companies obtaining contracts from the governments of the United States and Japan or from institutions controlled by these governments.

A statement by the special representative of the U.S. President at the trade negotiations, Robert Strauss, said that Japan's proposals have proven "quite unsatisfactory" for the American side. The U.S. Government annually places orders worth $10-12 billion with foreign companies, and in turn wanted U.S. monopolies to have wider opportunities for obtaining Japanese Government orders.

The talks between Japanese leaders and Wilhelm Haferkamp, vice president of the Commission of European Communities, on problems of the balance of trade between Japan and EEC also ended in failure in Tokyo yesterday. The Common Market representative left Japan saying that Tokyo would bear the responsibility for the intensification of economic friction in the capitalist world.

The trade contradictions between Washington and Tokyo are becoming more acute. The chronic imbalance of trade in Japan's favor--its trading surplus with the United States last year was $11.6 billion--has become the subject of bitter quarrels at virtually all economic meetings between the sides. The United States and Japan are resorting more and more openly to protectionist measures against each other, which are rather economic sanctions in nature. The latest examples of this are the U.S. measures and Japanese countermeasures on the steel and steel products market.

In order to restrict steel imports from Japan, the U.S. administration has introduced what it calls a "pricing mechanism," which impedes the marketing of Japanese steel in the United States at prices which are below those set by American companies. In response, Japan has sharply reduced the import of rolled steel and steel ingots, which has caused an acute shortage of these commodities on the American market.

In recent years four attempts have already been made to solve these economic contradictions at the very highest level but they all ended in failure. It was announced on Thursday that the seven most advanced capitalist countries--United States, the FRG, Japan, Britain, France, Italy and Canada--would hold another economic summit in Tokyo on 28-29 June, at which the problem of commercial relations, and in particular the constant enormous surplus in Japan's trade balance, would again be discussed. The Japanese side is becoming more and more intransigent in its relations with its Western partner and is openly displaying its reluctance to sacrifice its own economic interests.

SOVIET-JAPANESE FISHING COMMISSION ENDS MOSCOW SESSION

OW311055 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1400 GMT 30 Mar 79 OW

[Text] The first session of the Soviet-Japanese Commission on Fishing closed in Moscow today. The session lasted for 10 days.

The participants in the session discussed various organizational issues and prospects of scientific-technical cooperation in the field of fishing in 1979. They also reviewed the actual status of fishery resources in the northwestern Pacific and studied steps to be taken to prevent their decrease and promote their effective utilization. A protocol was drawn up to summarize the results of the session. The protocol was signed today.

AFGHANISTAN CONTINUES TO LIQUIDATE COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES

LD301850 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 30, TASS--The situation remains calm in Kabul and other major towns of Afghanistan. On the whole, life is normal and businesslike in the capital. In a number of areas of the country government troops and security forces continued operations to liquidate counterrevolutionary groups. The situation in Herat has been fully normalized. Offices are working and stores are open. Units of the 17th Division, stationed in Herat, are on guard in several districts of the province and in the town itself.

Individual counterrevolutionary groups and gangs, sent from Pakistan, are violating Afghanistan's state border, it is reported here, in particular, in Konarha and Paktia provinces. The bandit groups are hiding out in mountain gorges. Numerous and irrefutable facts again and again confirm that the counterrevolution, that has become more active in Afghanistan lately, is being encouraged and directed from the outside, a TASS correspondent was told by Piruz Ahmadi, one of the top officials of the Committee in Defence of the Revolution.

The tracks of counterrevolution lead first of all to Pakistan where the main bases of reactionary political-religious groupings--"The Moslem Brothers" and the Islamic Party--are situated. These groupings are connected with the imperialist circles of a number of Western states, with the central intelligence service of the United States and the British intelligence service. But the counterrevolution is receiving assistance not only from the West: It is not by chance that many saboteurs and bandits arrested on Afghanistan's territory were armed with Chinese weapons and admitted during questioning that they were trained by Chinese instructors.

The counterrevolutionary provocations against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are not ceasing, it was stated by a high-placed official of Afghanistan's security service. Gangs of cutthroats and bandits infiltrated into the territory of Afghanistan [and] raid district centres, set fire to schools, kill innocent people. But the overwhelming majority of these bands operate only briefly: They are liquidated with the most active assistance of the population. The Afghan people is fully resolved to rebuff the counterrevolutionary intrigues and to defend the gains of the April revolution.

Pakistani Terrorists Arrested

LD311216 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1745 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kabul--The leadership of the Afghanistan Committee for the Defense of the Revolution has made it possible for Soviet journalists to talk with two terrorists brought to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's territory and arrested by the security orgnas. One of them is Golmammad, a cattle breeder born in Paktia Province.

He underwent training in a special camp in the town Miramshah (Pakistan) where 1,200 other saboteurs were also in training. Afghan emigres Lt Colonel Mirzaman and Colonel Abdolhamid worked at the camp as instructors, as well as three other instructors who resembled Chinese. After completing his 3 months subversive (?training), Golmammad was secretly transferred as part of a group of five men to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's territory.

The task: to carry out counterrevolutionary propaganda, kill activists and to knock together underground antigovernment gangs.

Mahmud Yusof is the name of the other saboteur. He is 25 years old, and was recently at school in the town of Kandahar. The Mullah Serajeddin, known for his ties with Afghan feudal lords, persuaded him that all "true Muslims" ought to unite for the struggle against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's Government.

After Yusof had given his consent to take part in the counterrevolutionary group, he was transferred to Pakistan where he was taught subversive tactics in the camps at Quetta and Miramshah. "We were issued with arms of American and Chinese manufacture," Yusof said, "and we were trained by Chinese instructors. After completing the subversive school I was taken, along with others, to the Pakistani town of Peshavar, and received secret addresses in Afghanistan and specific tasks. They amounted to undermining the regime in Afghanistan by all possible means, and, should it be necessary, by arson, raids on state establishments, murders...."

The stories told by the saboteurs prove yet again that the counterrevolution, more active in Afghanistan recently, is being encouraged and directed from outside.

AFGHAN PRIME MINISTER GIVES INTERVIEW TO INDIAN PAPER

LD311202 Moscow TASS in English 1152 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, March 31, TASS--The aim of the April revolution in Afghanistan is the construction of the society free from all forms of exploitation, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Hafizollah Amin said in an interview with the newspaper the PATRIOT. He stressed that as a result of the revolution the Afghan people has gotten rid of the exploiters and has become true masters of its land. The main tasks of the people's government are liquidation of the age-old backwardness, implementation of a broad programme of economic and social transformations. Much has already been done in this respect within a short period of time.

Hafizollah Amin said further that feudals and other reactionaries from whom the power was taken are now plotting against the people's power with the assistance of their foreign masters. We have documentary proof that the enemies of the new regime are being financed from aboard. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan regards this as an obvious interference in the internal affairs of the country, as actions hostile to the Afghan people. Touching upon foreign policy matters, Hafizollah Amin said that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is sincerely striving to maintain friendly relations with all countries and does not intend to interfere in internal affairs of other states. He highly assessed the peaceful foreign policy of the Soviet Union, pointing with satisfaction to the strengthening of Afghan-Soviet friendship.

TARAKI ADDRESSES NEW AFGHAN GOVERNMENT

LD011656 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, April 1, TASS--Our goal, said N.M. Taraki, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan CC, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, addressing the members of the new Afghan Government, is the construction of a new society without exploitation of man by man. The creation of such a society will take no little time, but I am confident that we can achieve it. This was precisely the goal we had in mind when drawing up the country's five-year development plan laying the foundation for the construction of a new society.

Exposing the intrigues and conspiracies of the enemies of Afghanistan, N.M. Taraki said that they will not be able to inflict damage to the young democratic republic either by their false propaganda, which was even earlier used against the Afghan people, or through provocations. The enemies of the Afghan people have stepped up their activity precisely because the April revolution of 1978 undermined the forces of imperialist agents in our country, where power has been taken over by the people. But those who tried to interfere in Afghanistan's internal affairs had been taught a good lesson, he stressed. The working people of Afghanistan and their patriotic armed forces have foiled these attempts, the general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan CC said.

AMIN INTRODUCES MEMBERS OF NEW AFGHAN CABINET

LD312137 Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 31, TASS--The composition of a new Cabinet of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was announced here today. Prime Minister Hafizollah Amin also holds the post of the minister of foreign affairs. Dr Shah Wali became deputy prime minister and the minister of public health. Major Aslam Atanjar was appointed the minister of defence, Abdol Karim Misag--minister of finance and H.M. Katawazi--minister of information and culture.

When introducing the members of the new Cabinet of Ministers to Nur Mohammad Taraki, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, Prime Minister Hafizollah Amin stated that the main goal of the new government will be to implement the tasks proclaimed after the triumph of the April revolution in Afghanistan. The government, he said, is resolved to complete the land reform which is being effected in the country and to turn land over to landless peasants, peasants with small plots of land, and needy nomads and to raise their well-being.

In its foreign policy the government, acting in the interests of the working people resolutely comes out against foreign interference in Afghanistan's affairs and will accomplish the tasks of ensuring the inviolability, independence and national sovereignty of the motherland and resolutely defend the gains of the April revolution. He emphasized that the Government of the DRA strives for the strengthening of peace in the region and throughout the world.

The government, the prime minister said, will make every effort to implement the First Five-Year Plan of the DRA.

TARAKI NAMES NEW ARMED FORCES COMMANDER

LD010912 Moscow TASS in English 0900 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, April 1, TASS--Under the decree of Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Nur Mohammed Taraki, former Commander of the National Guards Mayor Mohammed Yakub was appointed chief of the General Staff of the Peoples Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

MORE ON AFTERMATH OF PRC AGGRESSION AGAINST SRV

Le Duan on 'Crushing Rebuff'

LD011300 Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

["Vigilance Observed in Vietnam"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, April 1, TASS--General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam Le Duan who visited Lang Son Province a few days ago highly assessed the heroic struggle of the population and the armed forces of all six borderline provinces of Vietnam which, fighting courageously, gave a crushing rebuff and thwarted the offensive of the 600 thousand-strong army of Chinese aggressors. This is said in a report of the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY.

Le Duan said that the Vietnamese people that inflicted a defeat on the interventionists filled many glorious pages in the history of the country. Being deeply aware that nothing means more han independence and freedom, our people in the past 30-odd years were in the vanguard of the struggle that was crowned with the victory over colonialism and neo-colonialism, Le Duan said. We are implementing now an important and great task, containing the onslaught of chauvinists who threaten independence and freedom of our country, just as other countries in South-East Asia and in the world.

The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam stressed that in this struggle the Vietnamese people receives great sympathy and strong support from the Soviet Union and all friends of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the world. He urged the party, its organizations, the local government bodies and the population to remain vigilant, to strengthen defence potentials of the country and to be every ready to rise to the struggle against the aggressors if they recklessly launch a new venture. Le Duan set the task of bringing quicker back to normal the life in the district that were subjected to the devastative barbarous aggression so as to provide for everybody housing, food and medical services.

Hanoi, April 1, TASS--The population of all provinces of Socialist Vietnam launched a campaign of rendering assistance to borderline districts of the country which suffered in the days of the Chinese aggression. The peoples committees in the provinces of the delta of the Red River plan to give food products and clothing for the population of borderline districts. The people of Tulok District in the Hai Hung Province, for instance, already sent to Lang Son the first column of trucks with rice. This district alone urgently sent into the borderline areas more than 300 tons of grain and quality seeds for planting.

Vietnamese Youth Solidarity

LD300923 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Mar 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent M. Ilinskiy dispatch: "Young Defenders of the Motherland"]

[Text] Hanoi--It is now more than a week since the Chinese raiders' main forces were driven out of Vietnam. Despite their statements, the Beijing authorities are continuing to perpetrate provocative actions against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV]. According to data for 26 March, more than 30 strong points have been created and are being held by the Maoist occupiers deep inside the Vietnamese border zone. Chinese artillery continues to shell Vietnamese territory.

As events testify, the Chinese side is not so much preparing for talks as regrouping its forces and threatening another invasion. The SRV is guarding its borders and maintaining vigilance. At the same time Vietnam is prepared for talks to regulate relations between the two countries. These meetings could begin on Thursday, 29 March. But before then the Chinese side must withdraw all its troops unconditionally to beyond the line of the historical border. However, judging by their actions, the Maoists not only have no intention of withdrawing the remaining troops--amounting to approximately several battalions--but are constructing new military installations and are bringing up guns.

The entire Vietnamese people are resolutely demanding the withdrawal of all the Chinese occupiers' troops from SRV territory. Young people are marching in the front ranks of the defenders of freedom and independence. The majority of the many thousands of Vietnamese soldiers who rebuffed the 600,000-strong Chinese armada 17 February through 18 March 1979 were young people. These glorious soldiers in the frontline border region celebrate a significant date on 26 March--the 48th anniversary of the formation of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth League. Patriotic youth rallies are being held in the country in honor of the jubilee under the slogans of defending the motherland and building socialism.

In Hanoi SRV Vice President Nguyen Huu Tho and other leaders of the republic attended a mass meeting of representatives of young people who distinguished themselves by their exploits during the 30-day war against the Chinese aggressors.

In his speech at the meeting Col Gen Chu Huy Man, member of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chief of the Vietnamese People's Army Main Political Directorate, stressed that the Chinese Government which unleashed the aggressive war against Vietnam has suffered a serious defeat. However, he said, the Chinese authorities' intentions of weakening and annexing Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea and eventually establishing hegemony over Southeast Asia and the whole world have not changed. Despite their repeated failures and defeats, the Chinese hegemonists are still displaying obstinacy and recklessness and are resorting to perfidious maneuvers. Chu Huy Man urged young people to rout the enemy and to struggle for their motherland's national independence and freedom.

Challenge banners were presented at the meeting to youth organizations of the Vietnamese People's Army and the armed security forces of Hoang Lien Son, Cao Bang, Lang Son, Quang Ninh Ha Tuyen and Lai Chau provinces.

Many communist youth league members in the six provinces bordering China gave their lives in the fighting against the aggressors. Their names will go down in the history of the Vietnamese Communist Youth League. Dozens of young men and women in the SRV have applied to enter the People's Army in order to worthily take the place of those who have fallen in battle.

Vietnam's young men and women have resolutely joined in the work of the commission to investigate the crimes committed by the Chinese aggressors. It was the young volunteers who came to liberated Cao Bang who discovered the bodies of 19 workers from a livestock raising farmstead and 18 small children beaten to death by the Chinese at the bottom of a 3-meter deep well in the commune of (Khongngok). Dozens of bodies have been found on the bank of the River Khuioi Khoang. Women were blindfolded before being shot. Many were carrying babies. All had been brutally murdered. 20 year old (Khoang Tkhi Khau), who survived by a miracle, said: "The Chinese soldiers kept the women and children locked in a barn for 7 days. These people were assigned the fate of hostages. They were to be driven along the road to cover the withdrawal by the Chinese units. But the women were so exhausted by their 7 days' imprisonment that they could not move. Then they were blindfolded and beaten with staves and rifle-butts. During this massacre by the Chinese, (Nong Van Ai), director of the livestock-raising farmstead, lost his wife and four children."

Vietnam's young people, like the entire people of that heroic country, are stigmatizing the Chinese aggressors and proclaiming their desire to make every effort to defend the SRV borders and to build socialism.

PRC Avoiding Talks

LD302106 Moscow TASS in English 1655 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

["Statement by Vietnamese Foreign Ministry Spokesman"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, March 30, TASS--A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam said here that the talk by Beijing's ruling circles about "good will to conduct talks" serves only the purpose of deceiving the world public and of covering up their criminal actions. Facts show that Beijing's true aims are directed at drawing out the talks and avoiding them.

Beijing's ruling circles, the spokesman went on, not only have not withdrawn their troops from the territory of Vietnam but are continuing to build ferro-concrete fortifications on occupied territory. They are increasing the number of soldiers and beefing up military equipment near the Vietnamese border, continuing artillery shelling, the sending of spies into the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, abducting Vietnamese citizens and committing other provocative actions.

The Chinese side, the statement stresses, must bear full responsibility for creating obstacles to the talks and aggravating tension on the border between the two countries. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam resolutely demands that China's ruling circles fully withdraw all their troops from Vietnamese territory and stop threatening Vietnam with war. The Chinese side should show a serious attitude to Vietnam's proposal that the talks on the level of deputy ministers of foreign affairs begin as soon as possible.

NHAN DAN On Talks

LD311320 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 31, TASS--The persons who hold power in Beijing and who unleashed the war of aggresssion against the Vietnamese people are advancing new obstacles so as to prevent the talks between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and China at the level of deputy foreign ministers, writes the organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam NHAN DAN. The stand of the Vietnamese Government is unchangeable and absolutely clear. Even in the days when hundreds of thousands of Chinese soldiers were committing crimes in the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Vietnamese Government declared that it is ready to start talks if China pulls back its troops beyond the frontier that formed historically [as received] and that both sides pledged themselves to respect and observe. But the Chinese leaders are refusing to answer logical and sound proposals of Vietnam, are trying to deceive the world public, alleging that their troops have been withdrawn completely from the Vietnamese territory.

China's actions, NHAN DAN writes, differ in reality from the statements of its leaders. The Chinese authorities have not withdrawn their troops from the districts that they continue occupying. Moreover, reinforced concrete fortifications are being built there, trenches are being dug out, troops and equipment are being brought into these areas and liberated population localities of Vietnam are being shelled. The continued provocations of the Chinese military show that they are preparing for a new war against Vietnam, the newspaper writes. China also threatens the Lao People's Democratic Republic and is conducting openly subversive activity against the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Crimes of PRC Aggressors

LD302128 Moscow TASS in English 1847 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 30, TASS--To present [words indistinct] to resort to falsifications, is [word indistinct] with the clique of the Chinese expansionists and aggressors. Having perpetrated countless crimes and atrocities on Vietnamese soil, the Chinese reactionaries shout about "humanism" and "kindness". However, they will deceive no one, they are unable to excuse their crimes, murders, looting, mass reprisals and executions, barbarous destruction in the area of combat operations, writes today the army paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN. These premeditated atrocities by the aggressive troops resemble the vicious outrages of the Nazis and imperialists, and are nothing but savage vandalism.

Without hesitation they murdered civilians, there was mercy for none--even newborn, pregnant women, old people. The mass murders of the peaceful population in the Hung Dao commune, in the city of Dong Dang, in the Bat Xat district bear testimony to their savagery which exceeds all the brutality of the Song My outrage.

The Chinese aggressors looted the cooperative and personal property, means of production, they grabbed all that our people had, in order to take away to China. The Chinese reactionaries destroyed everything they could not take away: From factories to residential buildings, from kindergartens, hospitals, schools, cinemas to pagodas, churches, historical monuments which they blew up by mines or demolished by artillery shelling.

The Chinese military destroyed the memorial zone at Oac Bo, insulting the sacred feelings of our people and the peoples of the world for the beloved President Ho Chi Minh.

They completely destroyed forest nurseries, pedigree cattle, animal farms. They destroyed all the bridges, communications, power transmission lines, railway lines. The Chinese military attempted to insult the environment: Chinese soldiers poisoned wells and other sources of drinking water, burnt forests. Before leaving they destroyed all vegatation.

By carrying out their scorched-land policy, clique of the Chinese reactionaries are trying to undermine for a long time our people's economic and cultural development. These savage crimes are not actions by individual soldiers, but the result of a thought out treacherous plan drawn up by the ruling reactionary grouping in Beijing, the army paper underlines.

VCP'S XUAN THUY ADDRESSES HANOI CEMA CONFERENCE

LD301420 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0850 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi--A conference devoted to the 30th anniversary of CEMA has taken place here. The conference was addressed by Hoang Bich Son, vice minister for foreign affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV], and also by ambassadors and representatives of the CEMA socialist member countries in the SRV.

Xuan Thuy, secretary of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party, who spoke on the occasion of the CEMA anniversary, stressed the great importance of CEMA as the first economic organization in the world based on principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. He expressed cordial gratitude to the countries of the socialist community for their fraternal solidarity with Vietnam.

VIETNAMESE CP DELEGATION ENDS USSR VISIT

LD300945 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Delegation's Stay"]

[Text] A delegation of party workers of the Vietnamese Communist Party [VCP] headed by Dao Duy Tung, candidate member of the VCP Central Committee, was in the Soviet Union from 20 through 27 March in accordance with the plan for interparty relations between the CPSU and the VCP. It familiarized itself with the CPSU's work experience in organizing theoretical research in the social sciences. The Vietnamese comrades studied questions of the work of the CPSU Central Committee's Institute of Marxism-Leninism and had meetings and talks at the CPSU Central Committee science and educational institutions sections, the CPSU Central Committee's Social Sciences Academy and other scientific establishments.

K.V. Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met with Dao Duy Tung and had warm, friendly talks with him.

CHINA CONTINUES MASSING TROOPS ON LAO BORDER

LD311228 Moscow TASS in English 1158 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

["China Building Up Threats"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, March 31, TASS--The Beijing reactionary clique has recently stepped up its anti-Laotian campaign. Beijing is openly and impudently threatening Laos, massing troops directly on the borders with Laos, training thousands of Laotian reactionaries resident in the Chinese province of Yunnan for subversive activity in Laos, the newspaper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN reports today. China's hostile actions against the People's Democratic Republic of Laos, the newspaper stresses, do not differ from its criminal activity against Socialist Vietnam. Enslavement of Laos is a component part of the hegemonic policy of the Beijing expansionist clique in Southeast Asia. The peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea are determined to struggle and foil the aggressive schemes of the Beijing rulers.

AUSTRALIAN DEFENSE EXPENDITURE TO INCREASE

LD301921 Moscow TASS in English 1828 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Canberra, March 30, TASS--Australia's military expenditure is to increase by at least two per cent in the next fiscal year and will continue to grow. This was stated in Parliament by Denis James Killen, Australian defence minister. He set out a five-year program for the purchase of arms and military hardware which will cost Australia 14 billion dollars. The minister emphasized that one of the main demands which are being made upon the country's armed forces is to meet the commitments connected with the participation in the bloc of ANZUS.

The growth of Australia's military expenditure is a direct consequence of Australia's close military-political ties with the United States. The minister's speech is viewed here as a preparation of the ground for the country's still wider involvement in the arms race.

FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD TO VISIT USSR 26-28 APRIL

LD020426 Moscow TASS in English 0424 GMT 2 Apr 79 LD

["On the Dates of the Official Working Visit to the Soviet Union of President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 2, TASS--Understanding has been reached that the official working visit to the Soviet Union of President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France will be held from April 26 to 28.

Giscard Interviewed on Visit

LD301041 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Mar 79 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[IZVESTIYA Editorial Office undated interview with French President Giscard d'Estaing: "French President V. Giscard d'Estaing's Replies to the Questions of the IZVESTIYA Editorial Office"]

[Text] The IZVESTIYA Editorial Office asked French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing to answer a number of questions of interest to broad Soviet public circles. The replies to the questions are published below.

[Question] Mr President, how do you assess the present state of relations between France and the USSR? What new steps, in your opinion, must be taken in the interests of further expanding and intensifying cooperation between the two states?

[Answer] In answer to your question I shall say that France assesses very positively the present state of relations with the Soviet Union. Frank exchange of opinions at the summit level between the leaders of our countries is conducted frequently and regularly, and Franco-Soviet trade is growing in volume and quality. Political dialog between us is by no means formal in character, and it enables us to examine major international problems profoundly.

I am sure that my visit to the Soviet Union and my forthcoming talks with the Soviet leaders and above all with Chairman L.I. Brezhnev will confirm this state of affairs. I believe they will enable us to provide new impetus to Franco-Soviet relations in all spheres.

I am convinced that on the political plane we will agree to make our relations more regular and systematic. Together we will define major international tasks for whose solution we will make independent or joint efforts in the years to come--for instance, I have in mind the reduction of armaments in Europe.

On the economic plane we will also outline the framework within which we would like our economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation to develop. We intend to seek means not only of expanding the volume of our trade but also of diversifying the content of our exchanges, defining the most promising fields for the future.

Soviet rockets launch into orbit space stations carrying French apparatus. And the Soviet Union has shown interest in constructing French-designed telephone exchanges. These are a few examples of cooperation which we must expand in the future.

On the humanitarian plane we must insure that contacts develop between French and Soviet youth, promote reciprocal knowledge of our two countries and in particular the study of their languages and wonderful literatures.

In short, the motive force whose role in the history of Franco-Soviet relations has always been played by summit meetings must be reinforced in all fields.

[Question] During the Soviet-French summit talks held in the past few years there has been discussion of the problem of relaxing international tension, safeguarding security and consolidating peace in Europe and beyond. What current practical tasks according with these goals would you like to mention?

[Answer] In my opinion at the present stage of our relations and taking into account international realities, France and the Soviet Union must focus their attention and channel their efforts in three main directions.

Above all we must continue to strengthen and develop what has been achieved in the sphere of disarmament in Europe. The 1980 Madrid meeting of the countries which took part in and signed the Helsinki Final Act should, in my opinion, make it possible to achieve new successes in this respect.

Second, we must be concerned to insure that detente is of a global nature. Consequently we must make vigorous efforts to insure that the spirit and principles of detente triumph throughout the world.

Finally, it is important to assess correctly the degree of danger presented to the cause of peace by the colossal stockpiling of armaments in Europe. On this plane France and the Soviet Union have made their own proposals. It is desirable that we discuss these problems frankly and deeply in order to accelerate the approach of the time when all European countries--insofar as this affects them all--can discuss them.

I am sure that these three subjects will be at the center of the talks which I will have in Moscow with Chairman L.I. Brezhnev.

[Question] Mr President, you have previously visited our country on several occasions. What are your feelings in connection with your forthcoming trip to Moscow?

[Answer] I have indeed had many occasions to appreciate the hospitality of the Soviet Government and people. It is therefore with great pleasure that I am preparing for my new trip to the Soviet Union.

As you know, I am a great reader of your literature and every year I familiarize myself with a whole series of works.

On the personal plane I value highly the very straightforward and frank relations which I have formed with L.I. Brezhnev as a result of our regular meetings. That is why on the eve of my new meeting with him I have a twofold feeling of confidence--confidence that my visit will strengthen the friendship and cooperation between France and the USSR still further; and confidence that it will serve the cause of peace and detente in Europe and throughout the world in accordance with the profound aspirations of our peoples.

PCF'S MARCHAIS ON STRUGGLE AGAINST 'INTEGRATED EUROPE'

LD301442 Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Paris, March 30, TASS--Struggle for the vital interests of the working people and against unemployment and austerity policy is the main task of all communists in France, said G. Marchais, general secretary of the French Communist Party, in an interview with the newspaper L'HUMANITE. Another important task, he said, is to fight against the policy of "European integration" and of extending the Common Market. George Marchais said that a future "integrated Europe" carries with it the danger of increasing unemployment in the EEC countries to nine million. On the other hand, it will give multi-national companies a chance to strengthen their domination in all fields and create more favourable conditions for an onslaught on the social and economic gains of the working people and on their rights.

In the final count, George Marchais said, the establishment of a "supra-national Europe" will mean an end to France's independence and sovereignty. The French Communist Party, he said, comes out for a Europe of social and economic progress, a Europe of broad cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit and equality, for stronger democratic principles, for national independence and an active disarmament policy.

FEATURES OF CURRENT ITALIAN GOVERNMENT CRISIS VIEWED

LD301251 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 79 p 5 LD

[N. Prozhogin report: "Behind the Scenes of the Crisis in Italy"]

[Text] One of the leaders of the Italian Christian Democratic Party [DC], G. Andreotti, who headed the government which resigned in January, recently formed a new cabinet. Besides Christian Democrats, who hold virtually all the key posts, the cabinet also includes representatives of two small parties--the Republican and Social Democratic parties. But this coalition government, like its predecessor--the single-party cabinet of the DC--does not have its own parliamentary majority.

Next week the discussion of the new government's program is to take place in Parliament. But it has already provoked sharp criticism, particularly from the Communist Party [PCI] and eminent figures of the Socialist Party. Observers are highly skeptical of this cabinet's chances, believing that it is destined to engage only in the organization of early parliamentary elections. They are led to this conclusion both by the reasons which have given rise to the 36th government crisis in Italy since the war and by upheavals of this crisis.

Let us recall that G. Andreotti's previous government, besides the Christian Democrats, relied on the support of the Communists, Socialists, Republicans and Social Democrats. This parliamentary majority was created on the basis of a program agreement between these five parties.

Time revealed the inability of the Christian Democratic government to cope with the tasks facing the country. Noting this, the PCI, which represents over 34 percent of the electorate, announced its withdrawal from the parliamentary majority. At the same time the Communists proposed, as they have frequently done in the past, creating a government of national unity with the participation of representatives of all democratic parties, including PCI representatives. They emphasized that this solution of the crisis would create conditions for resolving Italy's most complex, urgent problems.

Assessing the situation at the initial stage of the crisis, PCI General Secretary E. Berlinguer noted that the proposals advanced by the DC provide no opportunity for forming a government meeting the requirements of the moment, since these proposals are insufficient both in the sphere of economic policy and in questions of the struggle against terrorism. Nor has the DC renounced its anticommunist prejudice, categorically rejecting cooperation with the PCI in a government.

When the DC's position resulted in the deadlocking of the talks on the formation of a government, some of the country's politicians were inclined to try out new versions, in particular those proposed by the PCI. This is borne out by the assignment--unprecedented since 1946--of the task of forming a cabinet to the leader of a party other than the DC--to wit, U. la Malfa, chairman of the Republican Party. But the DC also thwarted his attempt.

Its right wing has brought influence to bear on the DC's position. The Italian press has reported that it was precisely the right wing which pushed the previous government into actions which could only provoke a crisis and then the early dissolution of the chambers. In the early elections the rightists, drawing inspiration and support from across the Atlantic, are counting on taking revenge and changing the correlation of forces in parliament in their favor.

As is well known, over a year ago now the U.S. State Department, flagrantly interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign states, issued a "warning" against communist participation in the governments of West European countries. This prospect continues to worry Washington.

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR recently wrote: "On the question of the communists' participation in the government the DC is divided. Many of the people gathered around Andreotti believe that this participation is an unpleasant necessity, but a necessity nonetheless. The party's right wing opposes it and can count on exceptionally great U.S. support."

Speaking of the plans Washington is nurturing, the same paper noted that it is a question of the interests of NATO for which, in connection with the events in Iran, the Middle East, Africa and the Indian Ocean, "Italy now has even more important significance than before." Consequently, the Pentagon strategists argue, "there is no alternative to Italy and therefore no alternative to barring the Communists from the government."

But Italy, particularly in its present difficult situation, as many politicians, including those who are far from sympathetic toward communism, are admitting, needs to pool the efforts of all democratic, antifascist forces. The example of U.S. interference in Italy's internal affairs shows once again the extent to which Washington disregards the vital interests of whole countries and peoples.

To the above we may add that those rightwing Italian politicians themselves who accuse the Communists of insufficient patriotism and on these "grounds" refuse them their right to take part in running the affairs of state, do not as they say in Rome, venture to breathe even a word without having first ascertained the prevailing opinion on Via Vittorio Veneto, where the U.S. Embassy building is located. Here too Italy is assigned a perfectly definite role in the transatlantic strategists' geopolitical game. Thus the Italian journal PANORAMA, describing the recently signed U.S.-Italian agreement on the arms trade and the exchange of military information, writes that it "binds the Italian and U.S. governments together with a double knot and more strongly than before." [paragraph continues]

Here, according to the journal's information, "the Italian Government has been given no opportunity to voice its own opinion on the subject, for the agreement was in practice concluded in secret." And now the newspaper LA STAMPA, published in Turin, reports NATO's intention to demand that Italy allow it to emplace U.S. nuclear missiles of a new type on its territory. It is indicative that in both these cases, according to Washington's scheme, Italy, which is being kept in a stranglehold by promises of economic aid, is to become a "showcase for the other U.S. allies in Western Europe.

Certain circles within the country are echoing these plans. An idea of their political credo can be gleaned from the statements by the leaders of the rightwing current of the DC, which operates under the motto of "democratic duty." "We want," states one of them, M. de Carolis, well known for his transatlantic ties, "the DC to be clearly anticommunist." He is echoed by Rossi di Montelera, from the same current: "Right now we demand that the DC solemnly say 'no' to a government involving the PCI's participation even after the forthcoming elections." Indeed, it is not only a case of these "extremists." People in Italy recall the U.S. trip by DC Secretary B. Zaccagnini immediately preceding the crisis.

Indeed, no one is venturing to forcefully advocate directly and openly the early dissolution of Parliament--an idea which is unpopular among the people. This is possibly the aim behind the creation of a three-party government which many people regard as nothing more than a temporary solution on the path leading to early elections.

However events develop in the future, Italy's democratic circles note that it is important for Italy that its internal problems be resolved by proceeding from its own national interests, without outside interference and pressure.

PCI INDISPENSABLE FOR STABLE GOVERNMENT IN ITALY

LD020002 Moscow in Italian to Italy 1730 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The Italian Government has resigned. The president of the republic, Sandro Pertini, has accepted the cabinet's resignation and has asked Giulio Andreotti to remain in office in order to conduct day-to-day business. The three-party government found itself forced to resign after it failed to obtain a vote of confidence in the Senate. Pronouncing themselves in favor of the cabinet were the representatives of the Christian Democratic Party, the Social Democratic Party and the Republican Party, and also the National Democracy group; voting against were the senators from the Communist and Socialist parties and the independent leftwing group.

Now, we have heard from Rome, the president of the republic may announce the dissolution of the country's highest legislative organs and call an early general election. However, it is not ruled out that the president of the republic could decide to hold another round of consultations, because certain parties, including the Socialist Party, are insisting on this point. It has been announced in Rome that tomorrow the president of the republic, Pertini, will meet representatives of both chambers of Parliament to examine the situation.

Gerardo Chiaromonte, member of the Directorate of the Italian Communist Party [PCI], in his speech at the Senate, pointed out that the communists have taken up a position against the three-party cabinet because they feel that its program does not help to solve the problems facing the country on the political, economic and social (?levels).

Chiaromonte laid the responsibility for the situation on the Christian Democratic Party, which has renounced the policy of cooperation with the democratic parties, which Italy so greatly needs today. The communist senator pointed out that the Communist Party will continue to fight to consolidate the unity of all the democratic party forces in order to tackle current problems in a positive and urgent fashion.

In the course of the debate, Senator Ossicini of the leftwing independents group pointed out that an analysis of the ratio of political forces in the country demonstrates that without the support of the Communist Party it is impossible today to form a stable and authoritative government in Italy.

CPSU SENDS GREETINGS MESSAGE TO PCI CONGRESS

LD312322 Moscow in Italian to Italy 1730 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has sent a message of greetings to the 15th Congress of the Italian Communist Party [PCI]. The message of greetings states:

Dear comrades: The CPSU Central Committee sends warm and fraternal greetings to the delegates at the 15th Congress of the PCI and wishes the congress a successful session.

In the period since the 14th Congress of the PCI, important events have taken place in the international arena. As a result of the intensive activity of the socialist countries, the world communist and workers movement, and the new upsurge in the struggle of the peoples for freedom and national independence, important positive social and political changes have been obtained and conditions have been created for the further advance of mankind along the road of peace, democracy and socialism.

At the same time, the reactionary forces of imperialism and those with great-power and hegemonic ideas, merging in their expansionist actions with the present Chinese leaders, who launched a criminal aggressive action against the heroic people of Vietnam, have become more active of late. They are stepping up the arms race; they seek to tilt the world balance of forces in their favor, to discredit and divide the forces of socialism, peace and progress. Their cherished aim is to throw the world back to the time of the cold war and open military confrontation.

By defending the national interests of your state, says the message of greetings from the CPSU Central Committee to the PCI 15th Congress, your party is making a considerable contribution to the struggle for the strengthening of solidarity with the forces of freedom, peace and progress; it opposes the schemes of aggressive circles and their accomplices in defense of international detente, for friendship between the Soviet and Italian peoples.

In present-day conditions, the international solidarity of the workers and above all their vanguard forces--the communist parties--is of tremendous importance for success in the struggle against any aggressive aspirations, against the arms race and against the danger of a nuclear war, for detente and social progress.

The CPSU will continue doing everything possible to rally the ranks of the international communist movement and all the forces fighting for peace, national liberation and social progress.

The 15th Congress of the Italian Communist Party has met at the very moment when the capitalist countries, including Italy, are undergoing a grave and prolonged crisis which has affected all aspects of life. Capitalism is the fount of unemployment, inflation, price rises; it worsens the living conditions of the workers; furthermore, it generates neofascism, terror and authoritarian methods, keeping the workers from participation in the running of the affairs of society.

The true socialism built in the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries has liberated the peoples of these countries from all the characteristic vices of capitalism; it has laid open a wide road enabling the economy and culture to bloom luxuriantly and the standard of living to rise continually; it has guaranteed the power of the people and an authentic democracy.

The communists of Italy justly see the way out of the crisis which has struck the capitalist world in the struggle for democratic transformations, for socialism.

Soviet communists, says the message from the CPSU Central Committee, salute the successes obtained in recent years by the Italian communists in the difficult struggle for the democratic renovation of society, for the strengthening of the party's resolutions and its links with the masses, against attempts to divert the party from the revolutionary road.

The 15th congress of your party must give an answer to these burning and impelling problems of Italian reality.

We wish you, dear comrades, to all Italian communists, a further consolidation of the party ranks on the basis of the great ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin, new successes in the union of your country's workers for the struggle in support of the great ideals of democracy, peace and socialism.

Long live the Italian Communist Party. Long live the international solidarity of the communists. Long live Marxism-Leninism.

NEW STATESMAN CHARGES BRITISH PILOTS FLYING U-2'S

LD011726 Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

[Text] London, April 1, TASS--American U-2 and SR-71 planes manned by British pilots make reconnaisance flights from British territory, the NEW STATESMAN weekly reported.

The British press had already written that American spy planes are collecting intelligence data about East European countries, in particular about the Soviet Union. The British defence department has recently acknowledged that U-2 aircraft operate from British Air Force bases in Cyprus. But it categorically denied the participation of British pilots in these operations. And now the NEW STATESMAN quotes well informed circles as saying that British pilots undergo special training in the USA and they then make reconnaissance flights from Britain with American identification cards and in the uniform of the U.S. Air Force.

Britain has been from the very outset an active participant in the programme of use of U-2, the NEW STATESMAN stresses. The weekly writes that there has long been a "special communication channel" between the CIA and the British defence department for coordinating joint actions in this field. A spy flight is made from British territory at least once a week, the NEW STATESMAN points out in conclusion.

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE COMMENT ON EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TREATY

Studio Nine Discussion

LD301740 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The signing of the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty under the auspices of the United States is bound to whip up tension in the Middle East. That was the conclusion drawn by the participants in the latest television program "Ninth Studio" covering international affairs. Taking part in the program were leading officials of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party Leonid Zamyatin, the chief of the Central Committee's International Information Department; Vadim Zagladin, the first deputy head of the International Department; and also Valentin Zorin, a political observer of Soviet radio and television. Here are some details:

The speakers in the program stressed the anti-Arab unjust nature of the treaty. [Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World at 1700 GMT on 29 March adds the following sentence at this point: "The participation of the United States in this treaty, said Leonid Zamyatin, did not come as a coincidence--it meant that the United States is a full partner in the Middle East conflict--given the fact that throughout the 12 years of the conflict the United States has always stood by Israel."] Israel, the aggressor, Leonid Zamyatin said, has got under the treaty everything it was fighting for during the 1967 war. The purpose of the war was the annexation of the Arab lands. Though Israel pledges to withdraw from Sinai, it will still hold the West Bank of the River Jordan, the Gaza Sector and the Golan Heights. In fact, Sinai will be returned to Egypt only on the condition that Egypt will have a limited sovereign right to that territory. The treaty ignores completely the rights of the Palestinian Arabs. Instead of independence, the Palestinians get what is termed as an administrative autonomy. To speak about the autonomy, Leonid Zamyatin said, means to automatically recognize the Palestinian lands as being part of Israel.

The separate treaty, Vadim Zagladin declared, sanctions the perpetuation of the annexation of Arab lands by Israel. The treaty is a humiliation to the Palestinians and other Arab nations, including the Egyptians.

The conditions of the treaty, the speaker said, provide grounds for the Israeli prime minister, Begin, to declare that there can be no return to the 1967 frontiers. Here is the answer to President as-Sadat's claim that Egypt gets peace with the signing of the separate treaty; it surely does not. What it actually gets is additional problems. Several Arab countries have declared they oppose the treaty because they regard it as a conspiracy between Egypt, Israel and the United States aimed at escalating American military presence in the Middle East, with all the paraphernalia of the arms race. All this causes alarm in the Arab world. This creates additional tension and new problems; this removes the Middle East settlement farther away.

The speakers recalled Lenin's statement about the Versailles peace treaty prepared by a group of Western countries, including the United States, after World War I. Lenin used to say that the Versailles peace treaty was, of course, a peace treaty, but an unjust peace treaty which contains in itself the seeds of future conflicts. This--Lenin's characterization--can be fully applied to the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. This treaty is prone with new conflicts in the Middle East--conflicts far more dangerous than those of the past.

That was a summary of the latest television program "Ninth Studio" covering international affairs.

Petrov Article

LD020844 Moscow TASS in English 0819 GMT 2 Apr 79 LD

["PRAVDA on Peace Camp David Style"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 2, TASS--The newspaper PRAVDA has today published the following article by Aleksey Petrov on the separate American-Israeli-Egyptian deal.

Thus, the almost one year and a half long Egyptian-Israeli bargaining under U.S. tutelage is over. A deal called a "peace treaty" has been concluded. It was sealed in an official ceremony by the signatures of Egyptian President as-Sadat, Israeli Prime Minister Begin and U.S. President Carter as a "witness." The treaty wrought by Washington is nothing else but a contract, under which Israel and Egypt commit themselves for a certain pay in the form of financial and military aid to serve U.S. interests in the Middle East and provide certain services for the USA, mostly undeciphered in the open text.

How many epithets and most peaceable-like words could be said in connection with the treaty, they do not change its essence. Contrary to what is claimed in the preamble and some articles, and even more in the speeches by the participants in the deal, the treaty has nothing to do either with reaching Middle East peace, or a comprehensive Arab-Israeli settlement, or satisfaction of the legitimate rights and interests of the peoples inhabiting that area. One thing is true--the treaty is in conflict with these aims. And this is why: Let us start with the main point. Every peace treaty must have as one of its main results an easing of military efforts. But what happens in fact?

Observers point out that none of the peace treaties of the contemporary times was accompanied with such a scale of arms build-up, that is envisaged by the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal. Within the framework of the known agreements alone, Israel is to be supplied with 75 "F-16" warplanes, at least 200 tanks, 800 personnel armoured carriers, 200 artillery pieces and more than a thousand missiles. In addition, three thousand million dollars will be appropriated for Tel Aviv to build two new air bases. Lesser, although sufficiently impressive military aid is to be granted by Washington to Egypt. It also includes aircraft, missiles, tanks, personnel armoured carriers, destroyers and submarines.

And these are only the figures that have been made public and concern the nearest future. As the participants in the separate deal themselves acknowledge much is concealed in addition in the secret annexes to the treaty.

According to some American estimates, nearly 27 billion dollars will be paid from the pockets of American taxpayers in subsidies to Israel and Egypt within the next three years.

The additional American military "supports" for the "peace treaty" must be the stationing of U.S. troops in Sinai, an increase in the might of the U.S. troops in Sinai, an increase in the might of the U.S. fleets and naval bases in the seas adjoining the Middle East. The first team of American military experts has already arrived in Israel. U.S. Air Force experts are to arrive for assistance in the re-deployment of Israeli Air Force bases from Sinai to Israel.

In a word, for the sake of "peace Camp David style" the participants in the separate deal are ready to pack the Middle East powder keg with explosives up to its brim. But how does it all tally with the American statements made only two-three years ago about the inadvisability of arms supplies to the Middle East, to the effect that this area is already packed with weapons?

This question is asked by the Americans themselves. Thus, the newspaper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR inquires in a discouraged tone: If they are building peace, why should they need increasing quantities of arms? Is not it a fresh proof of the fact that the peace treaty is not worth much?

But with what aims is this extremely explosive area packed with weapons to the limit? This question is answered by As-Sadat and Begin. The former declares without a shadow of embarrassment that he is ready to assume the role of a U.S. policeman in the Middle East. The latter assures that Israel is the most reliable support of the USA in that region. And all the i's were dotted by the treaty: "This is more than a treaty (now the unnecessary word 'peace' was omitted, author's note). It is some kind of an alliance of the USA, Israel and Egypt in the Middle East."

The real aim of the tripartite deal behind the back of the peoples is the shaping of a military political alliance of Israel and Egypt subordinated to the USA, an alliance spearheaded against the Arab peoples and called upon to consolidate U.S. presence in the Middle and Near East shaken as a result of the revolution in Iran and disintegration of the CENTO bloc.

Of course, both the Americans and the Israelis are not so naive as not to realize the dangerousness of the game they have started. They understand, without doubt, that "reconciliation" of the aggressor with the victim of aggression, even under U.S. supervision, cannot be stable. Furthermore, who can say how long As-Sadat, who signed the treaty on behalf of Egypt, but behind the backs of the Egyptian people, will remain in power? This is why two of the parties to the deal, hardly having signed it, are already colluding against the third party. It is common knowledge that the United States and Israel have signed a memorandum on guarantees, which actually has the form of a military agreement, directed against Egypt. Even As-Sadat was compelled to lodge a protest in this connection. But who on earth heeds his protests? It is apparent that those who had entangled As-Sadat in a web of separate decisions did not care to make even an appearance of "fair play."

As a result of U.S. pressure As-Sadat agreed to a separate deal, which contradicts the national interests of all Arabs, and of Egypt, for that matter, too. He renounced his country's complete sovereignty, defence of the Palestinian cause, his commitments to other Arab nations.

And what did Israel renounce? Not more than a handful of Sinai sand. The signed treaty benefits only Israel, which ensures its maximum interests and security at the expense of the interests of the Arab states. It is not accidental that speaking on Israeli radio Begin described the treaty as the "best declaration of Zionism and Judaism". A noteworthy admission, indeed! What is the worth in this connection of the role of an "honest broker", which the United States is trying to play?

Furthermore, and this is necessary to stress particularly, the United States did not for a single minute lose sight of its own interests. It is precisely for the sake of these interests that President Carter risked his prestige and undertook a dubious tour of the Middle East, a region which the United States declared to be "vitally important" for itself (it is pertinent to note that this region is in direct proximity to the USSR and lies 10,000 kilometres away from the United States). This region is important for the United States in the first place as a link in the global anti-Soviet strategy of the Pentagon.

Furthermore, the Middle East, from the viewpoint of the United States, means not so much states and peoples, but oil.

It is for the sake of ensuring access to this world's biggest fuel reservoir that the United States is prepared not only to loosen its purse-strings to support Israel and Egypt, but envisages also a possibility of direct military intervention in that region.

The newspaper Washington POST wrote about the growing impression that the United States were ready to use military force to defend the oil fields of Saudi Arabia from outside threat. Isn't this borne out by provocative statements about "U.S. resolution to defend" the area of the Arabian Peninsula, demonstrations of armed strength, expansion of the warbase on Diego Garcia Island, plans to deploy permanently a separate U.S. fleet in that region?

The shingle of the "peace treaty", sanctified by the ceremony on the White House lawn, is designed, in fact, to camouflage the desire to create under U.S. aegis, initially with the participation of Israel and Egypt, and then, if it materializes, other states, too, a military pact spearheaded against the Arab states and the Palestinian people, a pact called upon to turn the Middle East into a new military strongpoint of American strategy.

And how about the comprehensive Middle East settlement, the "first step" to which this treaty is declared to be? As-Sadat, who failed to uphold during the bargaining his own country's sovereignty, could not be expected to defend pan-Arabic interests in earnest. All the talk about the need of linking the Egyptian-Israeli treaty with a solution of the Palestinian problem, the "letter on the future" of the Western Bank and the Gaza Strip, which commits nobody to anything, were required by As-Sadat only to bid up the price of his apostasy.

The Egyptian-Israeli treaty, prepared and blessed by the United States, does not meet in the least measure the task of achieving a true settlement of the Middle-East problem, the principles of which are laid down in the known resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and other international documents.

Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, qualified the Washington document as a treaty of betrayal, treason and capitulation. This treaty perpetuates the violation of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine, neglecting the central problem of the Middle-East crisis.

Kurt Waldheim, secretary general of the United Nations, said, speaking in Bonn, that he viewed sceptically the prospects for a global agreement in the Middle East after the conclusion of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. He said that the Palestinian issue, without any doubt at all, was the crux of the Middle-East problem. But the treaty says nothing about this, and the question, consequently, remains open.

It is not without reason after all that in his speech during the signing of the treaty in Washington President as-Sadat omitted "by mistake" the part devoted to the Palestinian problem. He had long ago swapped this issue for the promise of U.S. patronage and big dollar and arms hand-outs. But Begin forgot nothing when he said in the Knesset that Israel would never pull out its troops beyond the borders that existed before the June war of 1967, would not give up the Eastern part of Jerusalem, would not allow the creation of a Palestinian state on the territory of the Western Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The text of the treaty mentions also the favorite U.S. administration's subject of "human rights". Devoted to it even is a special four-line article. However, it is absolutely unrelated to the lawful rights of the more than three million Palestinian Arabs, whom Israel had evicted from their land.

After all, the actual essence of the "autonomy" planned for the Palestinians, autonomy for the people, but not for the territory, as Tel Aviv specifies, consists in the further Israeli colonisation of the occupied Arab lands.

"What we are offered," it was stated by King Husayn of Jordan, "equals to a big fat zero." President al-Asad of Syria qualified the signed treaty as betrayal of the interests of the Arab peoples. "The purpose of all this," he stated, "is to intimidate some Arab states and to persuade others that the United States would defend them. A rather clear picture emerges, testifying to Washington's intention to deepen the conflict in this region of the globe so that the U.S. could carry out its political goals."

Unceremonious U.S. interference in the affairs of the peoples of the Middle-East, U.S. desire to subordinate the foreign policy of the states of this region, the course of their internal developments to its own interests, are covered up by the false shingle of a "peace settlement." All this meets with a growing rebuff of the Arab peoples. Practically all the Arab states have denounced the separate peace. The isolation of President as-Sadat, whose capitulatory course had paved the way to the signing of the treaty on terms dictated by Israel and the United States, is bigger than ever. Even the European allies of the United States express scepticism about the future of this treaty.

The Soviet Union comes out for a genuine and fair peace settlement in the Middle East, for the liberation of all the Arab lands captured in 1967, for the guaranteeing to the Palestinian people of the right to create their own state, for the guaranteeing of independence to all the peoples of this region. Only such a peace, based on observance of the vital rights and interests of all the peoples of the region, has the right to be called peace, and the future belongs only to it.

U.S. 'Dual Strategy'

LD301345 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[V. Vinogradov military-political review: "Washington's 'Dual' Strategy"]

[Text] The 16-month Egyptian-Israeli separate haggling is ending. It has been reported from Cairo and Tel Aviv that the two sides have concluded the last preparations for signing a "peace treaty." In Egypt the draft treaty has been approved by the parliamentary faction of As-Sadat's party and in Israel by the Knesset. But it is indicative that it was not put to the vote in the full Egyptian national assembly because of differences which arose during the debates, while during its discussions in the Israeli Knesset Foreign Minister M. Dayan called the deal "an Israeli victory." The actual signing of the separate treaty is to take place tomorrow, 26 March. Contrary to the original plans, Egyptian President A. as-Sadat has agreed to sign all three texts of the treaty--in English, Arabic and Hebrew--all at once, in Washington (previously it was planned to do this in three stages--in Washington, Cairo and Tel Aviv). This stance by the Egyptian leader, the Washington POST attests, has confirmed yet again how closely As-Sadat is linking himself politically, economically and strategically with the United States.

U.S. propaganda does not conceal its satisfaction at the forthcoming event, asserting that with the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli document the Near East will advance considerably along the path toward "long-awaited peace." But is this really the case? By strenuously pushing through the deal between Cairo and Tel Aviv, Washington is striving to use the conclusion of the deal to safeguard its own selfish interests. As the French newspaper L'HUMANITE wrote, "the word 'peace' which Carter reiterates so frequently only conceals U.S. imperialism's attempts to preserve its interests in this region at any price."

It should be noted that the events in Iran--the fall of the shah's corrupt regime, which serves the role of U.S. gendarme in the Near and Middle East--have forced the United States to revise its strategy in this part of the world. "A direct result of the collapse of the pro-Western regime in Iran was that the United States set about the active implementation of a dual strategy with respect to the Near East and the Persian Gulf. The strategy consists of strengthening U.S. allies--Egypt and Israel--and insuring direct U.S. protection of oil deliveries from this region," the New York DAILY NEWS wrote.

To attain this goal the U.S. administration was prepared to go to any expense. According to some Western press organs the deal between Israel and Egypt will cost the United States $10 billion. The White House has decided not to be stingy. Here is the New York TIMES testimony: "U.S. aid to Egypt and Israel was the key condition prompting these countries to surmount the vexed issues in the peace treaty."

Having received an opportunity to snatch a fat sum, 'E. Weizman and K. 'Ali--the Israeli and Egyptian war ministers--immediately rushed to Washington. They both had long lists of arms they wanted to acquire from the United States under preferential terms. After talks with Pentagon chief H. Brown, the Israeli minister described their results as "a very good agreement for Israel." He announced that the United States had promised to allocate Tel Aviv $3 billion, $800 million of which would not be repayable, to finance the construction of two air bases to replace those which the Israelis now have on the Sinai Peninsula and which they will have to leave under the peace treaty. The United States also agreed to accelerate deliveries to Israel of 75 sophisticated F-16 aircraft which will begin as early as next year--almost 3 years earlier than scheduled. In addition, the U.S. press attests, the White House has "basically approved" Tel Aviv's request for deliveries of 200 M-60 tanks, 800 armored personnel carriers, 200 artillery pieces, 1,200 Maverick and Sidewinder air-launched missiles and so forth.

Cairo, which has embarked on the path of separate deals with Tel Aviv and betrayal of the interests of the Arab countries and peoples, will also receive an "incentive bonus" from Washington. After the conclusion of the treaty with Israel, Egypt will be given at least five Hawk air defense missile complexes, a large number of tanks, armored personnel carriers and military aircraft and also destroyers and submarines. It is noted that the U.S. handout to Cairo will include "some advance payments, gratis, and a certain number of loans under beneficial conditions."

In exchange for the new billions of dollars and new arms consignments, the United States not only wants to achieve a "peace treaty" between Egypt and Israel. It is seeking to reinforce and even expand its military presence in the Near East. And although Egyptian Vice President H. Mubarak pompously told AFP that Egypt "will never agree to U.S. military bases on its territory," the U.S. newspapers reported during the talks in Washington a secret agreement on stationing U.S. troops on the Sinai Peninsula and granting the ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet the right to call at Egyptian ports in the Mediterranean.

It will be recalled that Washington has decided to give North Yemen arms worth $400 million. Following the military materiel it is planned to send 300 U.S. advisers to this country. And this at a time when thanks to the efforts of the Arab League the conflict between the two Yemens has been settled. [paragraph continues]

The U.S. attack aircraft carrier Constellation and other U.S. warships have now entered the Arabian Sea while two aircraft have been sent to Saudi Arabia to carry out electronic surveillance.

These were the first U.S. steps on the plane of the direct buildup of its military presence in this region. It is perfectly possible that more steps will follow. After all Congressman L. Aspin has stated that the Pentagon does not rule out the dispatch of U.S. troops to North Yemen "to provide a guard at the airfields for arms arriving from the United States." The New York TIMES has assessed "the showing of the U.S. flag in Yemen as the first milestone in U.S. strategy aimed at obtaining compensation for the loss of Iran."

The stepping up of U.S. military presence in the Near East is fraught with the danger of U.S. involvement in direct military confrontation with the Arab countries. The buildup of U.S. military supplies to this explosive region of the world is alarming the Americans themselves. "It is hard to believe," the eminent Democratic Party figure Senator W. Proxmire stated, for instance, "that it has proved possible to achieve peace only by increasing arms deliveries to Israel and Egypt."

In arming Israel and Egypt and knocking together a military alliance with their participation and under its aegis, the armed forces journal INTERNATIONAL notes, Washington intends to impose on them the functions of gendarmes in the Near East and Persian Gulf. And if the uniform of gendarme is nothing new for Israel--since the first days of its existence this Zionist state has opposed the national liberation movement in the Near East--then it is frankly unusual to see Egypt wearing it. But to all appearances Cairo is already beginning to feel at home in its new "clothing." For instance, it has become known that As-Sadat sent Egyptian soldiers to Oman to help Sultan Qabus who is trying to suppress the patriots' liberation struggle. The possible dispatch of Egyptian subunits to North Yemen is also reported. There are reports that Cairo is concentrating its troops on the border with Libya, while removing them from the Sinai Peninsula. Hints have even appeared in the Western press that Cairo will not remain an impartial observer if "the development of events in Iran goes too far."

The path which has led Cairo to sign a separate treaty has been marked by numerous Egyptian concessions in Israel's favor. Even after the date of the treaty signing had been set, Israeli Premier M. Begin, speaking in the Knesset, stated without a trace of embarrassment that his government would never agree to Israel's return to the borders existing before the 1967 war. Jerusalem, he said, is the "eternal capital" of Israel and we will never allow the creation of any Palestinian state in Judaea and Samaria (that is the occupied West Bank of the Jordan) nor in the Gaza Strip. You cannot put it more frankly than that!

A path to lasting peace in the region is possible only on condition that Israeli troops are withdrawn from all occupied territories and the Arab people of Palestine realize their legitimate right to self-determination. But what does the treaty concluded under Washington's patronage propose? It bypasses all the basic problems comprising the essence of the Near East conflict. It consolidates Israel's occupation of Palestinian and Syrian lands and gives Tel Aviv's Zionist rulers a free hand for the further "assimilation" of the territories they have seized. "No settlement of the Near East crisis that fails to provide for the solution of the Palestinian question, including the creation of a Palestinian state," the Saudi newspaper AN-NADWA points out, "can lead to peace in the Near East."

In an interview with the Lebanese weekly AL-HAWADITH, PLO representative F. al-Qaddumi stated that the signing of a separate document would lead only to the complication of the situation in the Near East and would create the threat of the outbreak of new conflicts in this part of the world.

Rejecting Washington's "dual" strategy with respect to the Near East, the Arab peoples believe that a just and lasting peace settlement can be insured only by an all-embracing solution to the problem according with the aspirations of all sides involved.

Egyptian Opposition

LD301356 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Aleksey Zlatorunskiy commentary: "Egyptian Opposition to Separate Deal"]

[Text] Reports from Cairo indicate that the Egyptian security forces and a number of military units have been put on a state of alert, and a wave of arrests has been launched in the country of officers and Egyptians of progressive tendencies. Arrests have also been made among religious leaders. Observers believe that through these measures, the present Egyptian regime is seeking to crush the wave of dissatisfaction at the conclusion of the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal. An expression of this dissatisfaction was the sit-in by students of one of the leading universities, Ayn Shams University. The students used the following slogans during their strike: "Alliance with Zionism would bring nothing but ruin and disappointment" and "The Egyptian-Israeli treaty is a danger to the Arab nation."

Foreign news agencies report that mass resignations by officers have been noted lately as a protest against the separate deal as an expression of unwillingness to undertake the role of American gendarmes in the Middle East.

The Egyptian Patriotic Movement [Harakah Wataniyah] issued a special statement outside the country, which declared President as-Sadat's actions as unlawful and amounting to a betrayal of the just cause of all Arabs. The statement added that Egyptian sovereignty in Sinai will be no more than symbolic because American early warning system stations will be established there while Egypt itself will be denied the right to keep armed forces essential for defense. The statement went on to say that As-Sadat signed a document which did not even contain a reference to the right of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination. Nor is there [words indistinct] to keep Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The material resources of the Egyptian people are to be put at the service of world Zionism.

General Shadhli, former Egyptian chief of staff and hero of the 1973 war, strongly criticized the separate deal at a press conference held on this occasion. He said that the capitulatory policy of the Egyptian leader gave the enemy everything without receiving anything in return. For his betrayal of the interests of the whole Arab world and the cause of the Arab Palestinians he has secured limited sovereignty over Sinai. During his bargaining with the Israeli leaders he sold not only his own territory but also the territory of others. Shadhli declared that in the new circumstances it is necessary to strengthen the internal resistance front and called on all the Arab and progressive states to contribute toward this process.

Military Implications of Treaty

LD301604 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington, March 30, TASS--The participants of the separate anti-Arab deal which was concluded by the leaders of the USA, Israel and Egypt, now call special attention to the implementation of the military articles of the so-called "peace-treaty" between Cairo and Tel Aviv. They are setting up a new military alliance in the Middle East spearheaded against the Arab national liberation movement and aimed at ensuring the United States' interests in this strategic area.

President as-Sadat gave U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown a long list of arms requested by Egypt--missiles, F-16 fighters, tanks, artillery guns, warships, submarines and other military equipment worth a total of two billion dollars.

In an interview with pressmen in Washington the Egyptian president did not actually conceal what he intends to buy American arms for. He directly threatened Libya by declaring his readiness to give "a lesson" to that sovereign Arab state neighbouring on Egypt.

The New York TIMES, referring to diplomatic sources in Cairo, writes of Egyptian troop concentration on the frontier with Libya and of a selective call-up of reservists in Egypt.

As-Sadat also rudely attacked the participants of the present Baghdad conference which condemned the separate deal and hinted at a possible "change of leadership" in some Arab countries which are opposed to his capitulatory policy. Egypt recalled all its embassy staff from Amman.

The Israeli leaders, who received from the United States much more arms and more up-todate ones than their partner in the separate deal, also use a language of blackmail and threats. It is reported in the New York TIMES that the American administration is planning to allocate within the next three years about 13.4 billion dollars for Israel and Egypt to be used chiefly for their rearmament. The lion's share of these funds will go to Tel Aviv.

In so doing, the U.S. administration does not think, in all evidence, of heeding the voice of its (?country's public) opinion, which condemns this dangerous line. In the course of the poll recently held by the CBS television company and the New York TIMES, 73 percent of the pollees said that they are against U.S. military aid both to Israel and Egypt.

It is precisely the lavish financial aid feeding the Israeli war machinery that enables Tel Aviv to come out from the positions of strength. Addressing a meeting with U.S. businessmen in New York, Israeli Prime Minister Begin openly threatened the OPEC member-countries, which decided to increase the price of oil, and urged the West to look seriously into the situation. Before his departure from the United States, Begin reiterated that Israel would never withdraw from the Arab territories occupied by it. Jerusalem will forever remain the capital of Israel, Jerusalem is indivisible, he said.

Reaffirming that the separate Israeli-Egyptian treaty has been conceived as a foundation for the Tel Aviv-Cairo military axis, on which Washington intends to place police functions for ensuring its interests in the Middle East, Begin said that this is "more than a treaty, rather some kind of an alliance." "The Americans", he added, "will do everything in their power for the observance of the treaty."

The Israeli premier implied, in particular, the American-Israeli memorandum on guarantees to Israel.

The memorandum says that in case if the treaty is violated, the USA will take the measures it deems necessary including "military measures" and will also "give Israel support it considers necessary."

This package of measures, the memorandum explains, provides in particular for a broadening of U.S. military presence in the Middle East and ensuring the necessary supplies to Israel on an emergency basis.

The USA and Israel have as a matter of fact challenged the whole world community by signing the memorandum and specially stipulating that the USA will, if necessary, vote against any decisions and resolutions at the United Nationsl Organization, which, in their opinion, are detrimental to the separate deal.

'Day of Land' Demonstration

LD302027 Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Amman, March 30, TASS--The Arab population of Israeli-occupied territories is marking today the "Day of the Land"--the anniversary of the commencement of active Palestinian resistance by the indigenous population of the West Bank of the Jordan to the Israeli regime of occupation and arbitrariness.

Demonstrations and strikes in the streets of the main towns of the occupied areas and student demonstrations are conducted with particular scope on this day. Most of the population of the occupied areas takes part in them. Barricades are put up in the streets.

Today mass protest demonstration in occupied Arab territories on the occasion of the "Day of the Land" are being keynoted by protests against the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli separate treaty, an act of betrayal by the Cairo leadership of the Arab and first of all the Palestinian cause. The Arab population of the Palestine demands a just and all-embracing settlement that would ensure the lawful rights of the indigenous population, including the right to self-determination and the creation of its own state.

Egyptian Emergency Security Measures

LD311653 Moscow TASS in English 1629 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, March 31, TASS--According to reports from Cairo, discontent is growing in Egypt over the capitulatory line of As-Sadat, who signed a separate "peace" treaty with Israel. Fearing possible protest actions, the authorities are taking emergency police measures and stepping up repressions against opposition.

A correspondent of the AL WATAN AL-'ARABI weekly reports that the situation in Egypt these days is reminiscent of that of martial law. Its armed forces have been alerted, the personnel of the police, security forces and intelligence services have been mobilized. The roads leading to Cairo are blocked. Thousands of policemen and soldiers of the internal security troops are guarding government institutions, controlling the main squares of the Egyptian capital. Reinforced armed detachments are patrolling the streets. Unprecedented security measures have been introduced in Cairo's international airport.

The regime, the weekly points out, fears actions by various sections of the Egyptian society, unanimously declaring against the separate deal in spite of political and ideological differences between them.

The authorities are forming armed detachments of members of the ruling National-Democratic Party to suppress opposition activity, the AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI stresses.

Arrests are being made among progressive elements. Thus, a number of leaders of the provincial organization of the National Progressive (left) Party have been arrested in Kafr al-Sheikh governorship. The building of a vocational school in Cairo, whose students protested against the humiliating deal with Tel Aviv, has been cordoned off by the police. The director of the school has been arrested.

Paris, March 31, TASS--According to news agencies, Egypt continues massing its troops along the border with Libya.

A correspondent of the FRANCE PRESSE AGENCY reports from Cairo: In spite of an official refutation by a spokesman for the A.R.E. Defence Ministry, who denied that the Egyptian Armed Forces had been alerted, it was learned from reliable sources that the Egyptian staff had taken emergency measures.

The road linking Cairo with Alexandria was closed to traffic in the morning yesterday. It is believed in well-informed circles, the dispatch says, that the measure is aimed at sending additional military units to the western part of the country adjoining the Libyan border.

Observers recall that when staying in the USA several days ago, As-Sadat openly threatened Libya. It is pointed out that the actions of the Egyptian leadership are a direct consequence of the separate deal with Israel. Having signed the "peace" treaty with the aggressor Egypt has got the Sinai front off its hands and is now sending its forces for struggle against progressive Arab states.

Gaza Mayors on 'Administrative Autonomy'

LD012340 Moscow TASS in English 0856 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Amman, April 1, TASS--Mayors of a number of towns of Israel-occupied Gaza sector sent a message to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim protesting against Tel Aviv's intentions to create the regime of the so-called "administrative autonomy" in Gaza Sector and other occupied territories. They believe this measure cannot achieve genuine settlement of the Palestinian problem. It is also stressed in the message that the Palestine Liberation Organization is the only lawful representative of the Palestinian Arabs.

Begin to Visit Cairo 2 April

LD020624 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 2 Apr 79 LD

[Excerpt] Israeli Prime Minister Begin arrives in Cairo on an official visit today, the first visit in history of an Israeli Government head to the Egyptian capital. True, judging from reports of foreign news organs, it is hardly likely to be a historic visit. It is reported from Cairo that the Egyptian leadership even tried to persuade Begin to postpone his visit, or at least not to make such alluring statements, taking the acutely negative reaction of the overwhelming majority of Arab countries to the signing of the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty into account.

Syrian President's Message

LD301042 Moscow TASS in English 1007 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Damascus, March 30, TASS--President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria addressed messages to heads of European, Asian and Latin American states as regards the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal. It stresses that the so-called "peace treaty" concluded in Washington runs counter to the U.N. Charter and U.N. resolutions on the Middle East, according to which a just and lasting peace in the region can be achieved only on the basis of withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and restoration of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

BAGHDAD CONFERENCE DELEGATES AGREE ON ACTION AGAINST EGYPT

Desire Anti-U.S. Measures

LD301522 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Yevgeniy Osipovskiy]

[Text] According to agency reports from Baghdad, where the conference of Arab foreign and economic ministers is being held, Saudi Arabia has not supported all the PLO's demands for harsh economic and diplomatic sanctions against Egypt. In this connection, AFP reports, Iraq has proposed that the conference be delayed for 24 hours to permit the delegations to consult with their governments before adopting a final decision on the sanctions issue. This evening the ministers are to announce their decision. As Iraqi Foreign Minister Hammadi, chairman of the conference, has said, the participants have already reached a common view that measures must also be adopted against the United States. It is the United States, Hammadi emphasized, which bears responsibility for the dangerous complication of the Near East situation.

Meanwhile the American-Egyptian-Israeli camp has apparently decided not to rest on the defensive and is moving to counterattack. For instance. As-Sadat has heaped crude attacks on the Baghdad conference participants, and he hinted that there might be changes in the leadership of several Arab countries which have opposed his capitulationist course. The entire staff of the Egyptian Embassy has been recalled from the Jordanian capital of Amman. The foreign agencies of AFP and REUTER report that Egypt has started concentrating forces on the border with Libya. Especially strong pressure is being brought to bear on Jordan, whichhas stubbornly desired to bend in favor of the separate deal. For instance, the American Congress House of Representatives passed a billion 29 March freezing American military aid to Jordan. And it was bluntly stated, REUTER writes, that a positive solution to the question of arms supplies will depend on whether Jordan supports the separate treaty.

Commentary on Baghdad Meeting

LD312250 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

[Commentary by Anatoliy Krasikov TASS political observer]

[Text] The conference of ministers of foreign affairs and economy from Arab countries ended in Baghdad today.

The main issue discussed at the Baghdad conference, notes TASS political observer Anatoliy Krasikov was the Arab countries response to Egypt's President as-Sadat's betrayal in signing the separate deal with Israel. Conference participants recommended that their governments break off relations with Cairo as soon as possible. At the same time, they decided to recall their ambassadors from Egypt and impose economic sanctions. It is a matter of freezing Cairo's role in the Arab economic and social council and of stopping all financial and economic assistance to As-Sadat. It was also decided to stop supplies of Arab oil and oil products to Egypt. Finally, conference participants resolved to transfer the headquarters of the Arab League from Cairo to Tunis.

Today the Egyptian president returned from his week abroad. As everyone knows, this trip started with the signing of the separate treaty with the aggressor. On his return home, As-Sadat found himself in an inflammatory situation. And indeed, as the Lebanese weekly AL-WATAN writes, the situation in Egypt at the moment is hardly reminiscent of peaceful everyday life. Armed forces have been put on full military alert, and the police force security and intelligence services are fully mobilized. Cairo seems as if it is in a state of seige and the authorities are afraid of a flare-up of dissatisfaction from the Egyptians themselves. And this means that the Egyptian president is isolated not only from the Arab world but from his own country.

A fair solution to the Near East problem is only possible if Israel frees all the foreign lands it has seized and not just part of the territory it took from Egypt in the past and if there is respect for the right to self-determination by all peoples of the Near East including the Arab people of Palestine. This is precisely the solution our country supports. And this was forcefully stressed once again, during the recent trip to Syria by Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, USSR minister of foreign affairs.

It is no accident that Khaddam, head of the Syrian diplomatic mission, welcomed the principled, consistent position of the Soviet Union, supporting the just cause of the Arab peoples, in an interview he gave today to one of the Lebanese newspapers. The Soviet Union he said has consistently supported the Arabs at all stages of the Arab-Israeli conflict. There is no doubt that it will continue to grant support and assistance to the victims of Israel's aggression.

Conference Resolutions

LD011858 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, April 1, TASS--The conference of the Arab foreign and economics ministers that ended here has become an all-Arab forum to condemn the Egyptian-Israeli separate deal and the disgraceful role of the United States in its preparing and conclusion. The conference adopted 23 resolutions envisaging the use of political and economic sanctions against the present Egyptian regime after the signing by As-Sadat of the "peace treaty" with Israel.

It was decided to recall immediately ambassadors of Arab states from Egypt, to recommend to member-countries of the League of Arab States to break off political and diplomatic relations with the Cairo government which must be done within a month since the adoption of this decision, to suspend Egypt's membership in the League of Arab States from the moment of the signing of the peace treaty with Israel.

The ministers adopted the decision to move temporarily to Tunis the headquarters of the League of Arab States, its General Secretariat and other institutions. A committee for control over the implementation of this resolution was formed. It consists of representatives of Iraq, Syria, Tunisia, Kuwait, Saudia Arabia and Algeria, as well as representative of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States.

The committee must take the necessary measures against any actions that might be taken by the Egyptian Government so as to hamper the transfer of the headquarters of the League of Arab States or to encroach on its rights and interests. The transfer of the headquarter must be completed within two months since the adoption of these resolutions.

Under the resolutions the Arab states must make steps to suspend Egypt's membership in the non-aligned movement, in the Islamic Conference and the Organisation of African Unity for violation of the decisions of these organisations on the Middle East problem. It was stipulated that relations with the Egyptian people will be maintained except for relations with those of its representatives that have direct or indirect ties with Israel.

The conference condemned the policy conducted by the United States and its role in the signing of the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

The Council of the League of Arab States at the level of ministers of foreign affairs, economic affairs and finance decided to stop the granting of any loans, guarantees, banks' funds and financial assistance from Arab governments or their organisations to the Egyptian Government and its organisations since the moment of the signing of the treaty, to prohibit the granting to Cairo of economic assistance from Arab funds, banks and financial organisations in the framework of the League of Arab States.

In connection with the suspension of the membership of the Egyptian Government in the League of Arab States, its membership in organisations and funds of the league must be also suspended. These organisations and funds must be moved from Egypt to other Arab countries.

The participants in the conference decided to apply the provisions on Arab boycotting of Israel to companies, organisations and individuals in Egypt who conduct the affairs with Israel directly or indirectly.

The measures taken by ministers of foreign and economic affairs of Arab countries constitute the minimum for counteracting the threat stemming from the treaty, the conference documents stress. The governments may take on their own other necessary steps in this direction.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation regards the decisions of the conference of ministers of foreign and economic affairs of Arab countries concerning sanctions against Egypt as the victory of the Arab nation which is waging the struggle against U.S. imperialism and the traitorous As-Sadat regime. This was stated upon the conclusion of the conference by official representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Abu Mayzar.

The United States must be aware, he stressed, that the Arab people of Palestine will be waging the struggle until it exercises its inalienable national rights.

Tunisia, Kuwait Recall Ambassadors

LD-11441 Moscow TASS in English 1300 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, April 1, TASS--The Tunisian Government today recalled its ambassador from Egypt fulfilling the decision of the Baghdad conference of ministers of foreign and economic affairs of Arab countries on invoking political and economic sanctions against the Egyptian regime and on immediate recalling of ambassadors of Arab countries from Cairo.

Kuwait, April 1, TASS--The Government of Kuwait decided to recall its ambassador from Egypt.

Kuwait's Finance Minister al-Atiqi said that Kuwait stopped all financial aid to Egypt in protest against the signing by the Egyptian regime of the separate treaty with Israel.

Jordan Breaks Diplomatic Relations

LD020708 Moscow TASS in English 0646 GMT 2 Apr 79 LD

["Severance of Relations"--TASS headline]

[Text] Cairo, April 2, TASS--The Government of Jordan has decided to break off all diplomatic and political relations with the Egyptian regime in accordance with the decisions taken by the Baghdad conference of Arab ministers of foreign affairs and economy on boycotting Egypt. Earlier, Jordan, just as Tunisia and Kuwait, withdrew its ambassador from Cairo.

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates also withdrew their ambassadors from Egypt.

COMMENTARY CONTINUES ON IRANIAN REFERENDUM ON STATE STRUCTURE

Arab Interest in Referendum

LD302148 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program: Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary]

[Text] A general referendum began today in Iran. In this referendum, the population will have to give their answer to this question: Do you agree with the establishment of the Islamic republic? Patriotic democratic parties and the Tudeh Party in Iran have called on those taking part in the referendum to answer this question affirmatively.

Thus the results of the popular Iranian revolution will be developed. This revolution broke out against all forms of imperialist subservience and against the domination of the reactionaries and to transform Iran from a policeman of imperialism and reaction into an active struggler for the national liberation of the people.

Great attention is being given in the Arab world to the events taking place in Iran generally and to the referendum in particular. This interest is logical. The victory of the popular revolution in Iran has basically changed the balance of forces in the entire Middle East. The Iranian revolution declared itself a firmally of the just cause of the Arabs. It has taken several tangible steps to confirm its loyal support for this cause.

It has broken off all of Iran's relations with Israel and it has been providing powerful political support and material aid to the PLO, the sole representative of the Palestinian people. On the other hand, the Iranian revolution had made the U.S. imperialists and their Zionist allies intensify their feverish activity to safeguard and expand their selfish and greedy positions in the area.

The United States and Israel are trying to make good as soon as possible the loss of their strong ally and the executioner of their will, represented in the shah's regime. For this purpose, for example, the United States and Israel hurried the separate deal with Egypt. Washington and Tel Aviv, together with Cairo, are trying to regroup their forces and those of their allies in the Middle East so that they can at a later date inflict a concentrated blow on the anti-imperialist liberation forces in the entire area, including the popular Iranian revolution.

In view of the existence of a specific danger to the development of events in the Middle East after the signing of the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal, the anti-imperialist liberation forces in the Arab world are actively trying to regroup their ranks and unify their action with all their friends and allies, including the Iranian revolution. Therefore it is natural that these Arab forces should be greatly interested in the results of the referendum that is taking place in Iran on the future form of the state and consequently the future policy of this state domestically and internationally.

The Arab nations confronting Israeli aggression and the intensified attack by imperialist forces have a vital interest in the consolidation of the positions of the popular Iranian revolution and the promotion of its anti-imperialist liberation trend because the close alliance of the Arabs with all the anti-imperialist forces in Asia and Africa, as the events of the last few years have shown, fully agrees with the basic interests of the Arabs just struggle.

Majority of Iranians Vote

LD311946 Moscow TASS in English 1821 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, March 31, TASS--The country-wide referendum in Iran on the question of a future state system of the country is coming to a close tonight.

According to preliminary data, about 98 percent of the electorate already took part in the polling, with an overwhelming majority declaring for the abolition of monarchy and for the proclamation of an Islamic republic in the country. This major political activity which is to consolidate the gains of the Iranian revolution is taking place in an atmosphere of population's high turnout. All citizens of Iran who attained the age of 16, irrespective of their ethnic background, religion or sex, are taking part in the referendum.

ZIMBABWE PEOPLE REJECT UPCOMING SHAM ELECTIONS

LD012320 Moscow in Shona to Rhodesia 1600 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

[Aleksandr Belkin commentary]

[Text] In about 3 weeks from now, on 20 April, the people of Rhodesia will have the so-called elections to complete their internal settlement agreements. Already frantic preparations are going on to coerce everyone to take part. On this, let us hear what our newswriter Aleksandr Belkin has to say:

The foreman of the Rhodesian Boers, Ian Smith, and his black captives Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau have called forth old men and old women and have given them guns to intimidate people into voting on 20 April. It would appear that Smith and his black puppets no longer have confidence in their present army and police force. They question their ability to maintain law and order during the so-called elections for majority rule. Smith is really not prepared to give up power. He only wants to use his black puppets to perpetuate white rule in the country. The people of Zimbabwe have always known this fact; and through the Patriotic Front's alliance they have rejected this sham arrangement. They have made it clear that this last attempt to set up a puppet government in their country of birth will never succeed.

The Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe will continue to wage war, and is now fighting everywhere in the country in an effort to end this continued enslavement of the people of Zimbabwe. The whole country is now behind the Patriotic Front; hence the Boers are retaliating by committing atrocities against innocent, defenseless black civilians. Smith is now arming his old whites in an attempt to compel people to participate in his illegal elections against their will. Britain and America have come out on the side of Rhodesia, and are sending envoys to Rhodesia to help in these elections. Furthermore, the Western news media are now engaged in a smear campaign that the Patriotic Front freedom fighters are responsible for the spilling of blood in the country and that the Patriotic Front leaders have rejected calls for an all-party conference. But the freedom fighters are not responsible for Smith's atrocities. Those responsible are Smith, his black sellouts Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau, and all those in the Western world who have always supported Ian Smith. But all this will not deter the people of Zimbabwe from carrying on the struggle until Zimbabwe is completely liberated and total independence is achieved.

U.S. CRITICIZED FOR SENDING OBSERVERS TO RHODESIAN ELECTION

LD012228 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The U.S. Senate has decided to send a group of 50 observers to the so-called parliamentary elections in Rhodesia which have been fixed by the ruling racist Smith clique for 20 April.

This decision has been taken in spite of the latest UN Security Council resolution on Rhodesia. As is known, the Security Council has declared the elections under the aegis of the Smith regime illegal and has called on all UN member countries to abstain from sending their observers to this election farce.

However, as is apparent, the American legislators have decided to disregard the view of the most authoritative international organization and this fact cannot be appraised otherwise then as encouragement of the racists and as one more proof of the unity of purpose of the ruling circles of the United States and the Smith clique.

They are seeking to achieve a neo-colonialist solution to the Rhodesian problem by bringing to power, as a result of pseudoelections, a formally African but, in essence, a puppet government.

To all appearances, the United States and the Salisbury regime are hoping that after the world community has been faced with the fait accompli of the elections it will somehow recognize the puppet government and abolish international sanctions against Rhodesia.

Both speeches by senators in the Congress of the United States and material in the American press are evidence of such calculations. The American press has already begun a broad campaign to prepare the public for the need to abolish the UN economic sanctions against Rhodesia.

The observers sent by Congress are allegedly to provide President Carter with the necessary information on making the correct decision concerning sanctions. Abolition of sanctions, U.S. Secretary of State Vance admits, would strengthen Salisbury's resolve to insist on its own plan regarding Rhodesia's future.

However, the last word in the solution of the Rhodesian problem remains with Rhodesia's African majority, the people of Zimbabwe and its vanguard in battle--the Patriotic Front. The patriots of Zimbabwe resolutely reject the designs of the racists and their overseas patrons. In their just struggle for genuine independence they enjoy the support of the whole of independent Africa, the states of the socialist community and broad sections of the world public. The maneuvers of the Rhodesian racists and their patrons will hardly bring them the expected results.

MUZOREWA TO SEEK CLOSER TIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA IF ELECTED

LD310356 Moscow in Shona to Rhodesia 1600 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Arkadiy Butlitskiy commentary]

[Text] One of the African sellouts in the shameful administration currently running Rhodesia, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, told television viewers that if he wins the forthcoming elections in Rhodesia in April he is going to establish closer links between his government and that of the Boers in South Africa. Here is a commentary by our news analyst Arkadiy Butlitskiy:

It is a well-known fact that the freedom fighters of Zimbabwe and all other progressive people in Africa have likened the Rhodesian internal settlement to a bomb that is likely to explode in the hands of those handling it. The agreement signed in Salisbury was very disgraceful. The Africans who joined forces with foreman Ian Smith include Bishop Muzorewa, Ndabaningi Sithole and Chief Chirau. These three men are spreading a false gospel, purporting to be the true leaders of the people of Zimbabwe. But today the truth has come out in the open. These people who were pretending to be fighting for the liberation of the country are, in actual fact, allies of the Boers of South Africa. They are intent on building a close friendship with a despicable regime that has attempted to legalize the odious practice of racial discrimination; a regime that has ceaselessly trampled upon the legitimate aspirations of the black people.

Bishop Muzorewa's statement now recalls to mind for many people the reactionary policies of the Malawi regime, which is the only country in Africa that has diplomatic relations with South Africa. The Malawi leader, Kamuzu Banda, like Muzorewa, said when he was setting up his administration, that there was nothing more vital in his plans than to establish excellent relations with the Pretoria administration.

What benefits have the Malawians now reaped? Their country's wealth has been plundered by the capitalists from Britain, South Africa, West Germany and America. Companies from these countries are the only ones benefiting from the wealth of Malawi, created through the blood, sweat and labor of the black workers. Malawi is the leading beggar among the world's nations, and also enjoys the lowest standard of living in Africa. Bishop Muzorewa's statement, therefore, is like someone who has jumped into a red-hot frying pan, especially at this time when Rhodesia is being condemned for organizing an illegal election. What then will happen if this man reaps nothing from his association with the odious racists?

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETS CONGOLESE PARTY CONGRESS

LD301349 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 March 79 p 1 LD

[Text] To the 3d Extraordinary Congress of the Congolese Labor Party [CLP].

The CPSU Central Committee sends cordial greetings and wishes for successful work to the delegates of the Congolese Labor Party Congress. Soviet communists regard the work of the CLP and your congress with feelings of friendship and solidarity. Its decisions are designed to create favorable conditions for further deepening the progressive socioeconomic transformations, strengthening the CLP and the cohesion of all the country's anti-imperialist forces, and to create an independent national economy and increase the people's prosperity.

The CLP's desire to strengthen friendly relations and cooperation with the Soviet Union, the other socialist community countries and all freedom and peace-loving forces is highly regarded and shared in the Soviet Union. Our parties have common interests in the defense of international security, in the struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism, racism and Chinese hegemonism and in support of disarmament. Also, these common interests are against the aggressive encroachments on the sovereignty of Asia, African and Latin American countries and for the peoples' national and social liberation.

May the work of your congress give CLP members and all Congolese working people new impetus in their struggle for national and social progress and for the building of a society without the exploitation of man by man! Long live the friendship and cooperation between the CPSU and the CLP and between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of the Congo!

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee

USSR SENDS FOOD TO DROUGHT-STRICKEN CAPE VERDE

LD301219 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Free Aid"]

[Text] Guided by the principles of humanism and international solidarity, the Soviet Red Cross has decided to give free aid to the population of the Republic of the Cape Verde Islands, which is suffering from a prolonged drought. Aeroflot aircraft will shortly deliver a consignment of foodstuffs--the Soviet Red Cross gift--to the island of Sal.

REPORTS ON USSR MUSLIM, NATIONALITIES 'PROBLEM' DERIDED

LD301548 Moscow in English to North America 0030 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] And now here is Vladimir Pozner and his daily talk:

Thank you and hello everyone! A listener who makes his home in Jacksonville, Florida, sent me a clipping from a back issue of the local Jacksonville JOURNAL's editorial page. Published under a box annoucement that, quote, the editorial published below represents the opinion of the Jacksonville JOURNAL, unquote, this particular editorial is headlined "The Kremlin's Problems" and these are thus: (?Uncle Sam's [word indistinct] to control events in various parts of the world is well publicized. Less obvious are numerous signs that the planet's other superpower has its own problems at home and abroad. What are these problems?

One according to the journal, which in turn quotes the Paris newspaper LE MONDE, is our, that is the Soviets', large and growing Muslim population. Muslims, says the Jacksonville JOURNAL, account for 60 million of the Soviet Union's 200 million population and may number 100 million within 22 years. And that, you see, accounts for Russia being, quote, more nervous with Khomeyni in power in Iran than with the shah, unquote.

What I love about such assertions are their accuracy. For instance, the USSR's population count as of 1 July 1978--the latest official figure--stood at 261.2 million--a mere 61 million more than the quoted figure. But that is harmless slip of the tongue compared to the Muslim figure.

As you know, the word Muslim relates to a certain religious belief, like say, Christian. The population of France, for instance, is 53 million, but it would be a gross error to say there are 53 million Christians in France, considering non-Christians and nonbelievers. Now then, the total population of the Soviet Union's Central Asian republics plus Azerbaijan, which were once predominantly Moslem, amounts to slightly over 45 million. But of that number at least 25 percent are Russians, Ukrainians and others who have moved to those parts of the country, and that leaves about 34 million.

Over the 60-plus years of Soviet government, religion has declined sharply in this country, and although we have no figures--a person's beliefs are strictly private and never asked about here--it would be hard to imagine more than 10 percent of the once Muslim population actually being religious today. So 10 percent means a bit over 3 million, and that is anything but a conservative figure. It differs rather starkly from what the Jacksonville JOURNAL said.

But that paper says more. It speaks about the rise of nationalism in the USSR and again cites LE MONDE (?about) an alleged nationalistic demonstration that occurred in Soviet Georgia last April, which, quote, the Kremlin was too timid to put down by force, unquote. Now is not that a beauty? Supposing the demonstration actually did take place. Well, if it had been put down by force, the way many demonstrations are dispersed in the West, the United States included, that would have been all over the pages of American papers, the Jacksonville JOURNAL included, and we would be preached at from high quarters on the subject of human rights. However, this demonstration was not put down. So what does that mean? That we respect human rights? That democratic procedure was followed in that particular case? Not on your life! It means the Kremlin was too scared. A great bit of editorial analyzing, don't you think? With that kind of reporting it is not surprising so many Americans know so little and are so biased about my country.

UZBEK EFFORTS TO COUNTER RELIGION INCLUDE ISLAM

LD301543 [Editorial Report LD] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian on 23 March publishes on page 3 a 1,200-word feature under the heading "To Awaken the Believer: Light Against Darkness" on atheist work. It incorporates an article on local atheist work by K. Nazirov, a lecturer attached to Surkhandaryinskiy Obkom, and an article by "atheist lecturers" A. Abayev and B. Barakayev, on atheist work in Bukhara. The second article notes that a lecture on "the reactionary essence of Islam" was delivered recently in Bukhara.

ABKHAZSKIY OBKOM PLENUM SEES NEED TO IMPROVE LAW AND ORDER

LD301547 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 22 Mar 79 p 2 LD

[GRUZINFORM report: "For Exemplary Law and Order"]

[Text] An Abkhazskiy Obkom plenum held in Sukhumi has discussed the question of further strengthening socialist legality and law and order in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum. Abkhazskaya ASSR Prosecutor V. Vardaya, Minister of Internal Affairs I. Klimov, Minister of Justice K. Sichinava and M. Argun, chairman of the Abkhazskaya ASSR Supreme Court, delivered reports on progress in fulfilling the 27 April 1977 Abkhazskiy Obkom Fifth Plenum resolution "on the Tasks of Abkhazia's Party, Soviet, Trade Union and Komsomol Organizations and Economic and Administrative Organs in Intensifying the Struggle Against Crime."

Analyzing administrative organs activity, the plenum participants noted shortcomings and omissions in the struggle against lawbreaking and crime. It was stressed that the internal affairs organs and ispolkoms pay insufficient attention to revealing and finding jobs for people not engaged in socially useful labor. It was noted that prevention work in working people's collectives is still not efficient enough and that legal propaganda is poorly organized.

Particularly acute mention was made of the need to eradicate shortcomings in the activity of the MVD and its subunits at the local level and to prevent the antistate practice, which does occur, of covering up crimes, and insure the principle of inevitable punishment.

The results of the plenum were summed up by B. Adleyba, candidate member of the Georgian CP Central Committee Bureau and first secretary of Abkhazskiy Obkom.

GEORGIAN JUSTICE MINISTRY ORGAN HITS DEFECTS IN LEGAL WORK

LD301539 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 22 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[GRUZINFORM report: "From a Position of Implacability Toward Shortcomings. Enlarged Session of Georgian SSR Ministry of Justice Collegium"]

[Text] An enlarged session of the Georgian SSR Ministry of Justice Collegium has discussed the work of the republic's justice organs and courts in 1978 and their tasks stemming from the speech by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at his 2 March 1979 meeting with the voters of Moscow's Baumanskiy Electoral Okrug and from the party and government's decisions on questions of further strengthening socialist legality.

The report was delivered by republic Minister of Justice A. Shushanashvili.

USSR Minister of Justice V. Terebilov delivered a speech at the expanded collegium session.

The session noted that the republic's justice organs and courts have improved their work to insure legality and justice and for the working people's legal education. More purposeful use is being made of the measures envisaged by the law to prevent crimes and law violations. As a result, the number of sentences and verdicts knocked down has decreased appreciably and the quality and efficiency of circuit court sessions and interlocutory orders have improved. There has been an improvement in the methodological leadership of legal work in the national economy and in improving legislation and alining it with the USSR and Georgian SSR constitutions.

Preparations for the publication in Georgian and Russian of a collection of existing Georgian SSR legislation have been completed. At the same time, the session noted that shortcomings still exist in the work of justice organs and the courts. The standard of these organs' activity still does not fully accord with the party's demands for a further strengthening of socialist legality and state discipline and the prevention and eradication of crime.

Despite a number of measures implemented in order to strenthen legality and state and labor discipline, and intensify the struggle formalism and bureaucracy, it has not yet been possible to achieve a fundamental improvement in the activity of justice organs and the courts.

The session paid great attention to the problems of enhancing the effectiveness of work to prevent law violations among minors. It was stressed that the trial materials are not always used to reveal and eliminate the reasons for teenage crime.

The dragging out of trials, violations of their schedules and a bureaucratic attitude toward working people's complaints and statements still occur in judicial practice. The standard of work to generalize judicial practice in cases of the theft of state and public property, crimes by officials and economic crimes is poor. Due attention is not paid to the full and timely compensation of the state for damage caused by theft.

The resolution adopted by the collegium stresses the urgency of focusing the efforts of all personnel of justice organs and the courts on further enhancing the effectiveness of the struggle against crime and strictly observing socialist legality.

P. Gilashvili, chairman of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, G. Kolbin, second secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, and G. Gvetadze, chief of the Georgian CP Central Committee Administrative Organs Department, participated in the work of the enlarged collegium session.

COLLECTION OF USTINOV SPEECHES, ARTICLES PUBLISHED

LD302354 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A collection of selected speeches and articles by Marshal of the Soviet Union Ustinov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR defense minister, has been published. The book contains articles and speeches concerning the period of the Great Patriotic War and the postwar years.

The materials in the collection enlarge on the topical questions of the domestic and foreign policy activities of the CPSU Central Committee, defense of the socialist fatherland, the party's military policy and the strengthening of the country's defensive capability. The collection was issued in a mass edition by the Politicheskaya Literatura Publishing House.

BREZHNEV GREETS KOMSOMOL MEMBERS BOUND FOR W. SIBERIA

LD020751 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[Apparent text of Brezhnev message "To Members of the All-Union Shock Komsomol Detachment Named for the 25th Anniversary of the Virgin Lands Bound for West Siberian Construction Sites," under the rubric "Continuing the Feat of the First Virgin-Landers"]

[Text] Dear friends, with profound satisfaction I have learned about the valuable initiative of the Komsomol, in response to the decision of the CPSU Central Committee November 1978 Plenum, to send a 5,000-member detachment of young volunteers to shock Komosomol construction sites in Western Siberia. Your work efforts in the frontline of communist construction evoke in communists, people of the older generation, a feeling of legitimate pride in the Leninist Komsomol, our Soviet youth. The party highly values your enthusiasm and readiness to actively participate in further developing the country's main fuel and energy complex.

It is profoundly symbolic that the all-union Komsomol detachment, departing to the most important construction sites, is called "The 25th Anniversary of the Virgin Land" [25-Letiye Tseliny]. For me and other participants in this heroic epic it is pleasant to be convinced once again of the readiness of our youth to continue the working achievement of the first virgin-landers, to carry further the baton of the revolutionary, fighting and working traditions of the party and people with honor. The Komsomol has always been and will remain a reliable assistant of the party.

It is very important that the Komsomol members, departing for the West Siberian rayons, master the professions of builders, assemblers, drivers, borers and other necessary specializations. After a short time in the area, with your participation, large industrial enterprises will be constructed, new towns and settlements will grow, in which you will be the old residents, in which you will find your human happiness.

The patriotic example of the all-union Komsomol detachment of young volunteers will, no doubt, meet with the enthusiastic support of young men and women of the country, and more thousands of young enthusiasts will fill the collectives of the excellent workers in Western Siberia. You, comrades, have to carry out tasks, not the easiest ones. There will be difficulties, but I am deeply convinced that they will be solved by our glorious Komsomol members.

In response to the order of the party voiced at the Komsomol 18th congress, the Komsomol has worked out a broad program for further strengthening the patronage of the development of the oil and gas complex in Western Siberia. Komsomol organizations of all union republics, krays and oblasts are taking an active part in this noble cause.

I wish you from all my heart, dear friends, successes in your patriotic work, new working achievements in the struggle to implement the historical decisions of the 25th party congress, the tasks of the 10th 5-Year Plan.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev

BREZHNEV'S COLLECTED WORKS ISSUED IN MOSCOW

LD271700 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

["New Collected Works by Leonid Brezhnev"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 27, TASS--The collective works "On Guard of Peace and Socialism" by general secretary of the CPSU CC, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet have been issued here. The collective works deal with the Leninist foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state, efforts for ensuring the security of the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries, work for further improving the standards of the Soviet Armed Forces.

The book deals with the consistent efforts by the CPSU and the Soviet state for international detente, for peace and international security, against the aggressive policy of imperialism, for ensuring a reliable defence of the gains of the Great October Socialist Revolution of 1917.

The materials of the collective works show the diverse activity of Leonid Brezhnev for strengthening the defence might of the USSR and the community of the brother socialist states.

FEDOROV ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF SOVIET PEACE COMMITTEE

LD301048 Moscow TASS in English 1021 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 30, TASS--The 69-year-old academician Yevgeniy Fedorov has become chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee. He was unanimously elected chairman at the plenum of this mass organization maintaining ties with national committees of more than 100 countries. Yevgeniy Fedorov has replaced in this important public office author Nikolay Tikhonov, who died recently.

The new chairman is known as a tireless fighter for peace. He invariably took part in international forums against the arms race and a threat of a new war, for disarmament and international detente. He has held for many years the post of vice-chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee, member of the Soviet Youth Anti-Fascist Committee, the Pugwash Committee. Yevgeniy Fedorov is vice-president of the World Peace Council. He is also well known as a prominent and courageous researcher, who participated in the legendary expedition of Ivan Papanin in 1937 in the first Soviet drifting station Severnyy Polyus (North Pole). Among the extensive research work done by the Soviet geophysicists is the study of high altitude layers of the atmosphere by means of artificial earth satellites and problems of environmental protection. Fedorov stood at the sources of the Soviet hydrometeorological service. He has headed recently one of the most important institutes--that of applied geophysics. Academician Fedorov has been repeatedly elected deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet. He has been elected deputy of the country's parliament of the new convocation. Fedorov is member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

DIFFICULTIES IN DEVELOPING KANSKO-ACHINSKIY FUEL COMPLEX

LD301033 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 79 p 2 LD

[Part one of two-part article by correspondent V. Prokushev: "The Kansko-Achinskiy Fuel Complex": carried under the rubric: "Behind an Item of the 25th CPSU Congress Decisions"]

[Text] 1. Construction Strategy

Five years ago near the old village of Sharypovo, excavator operator Valentin Pyatykh dug out the first scoop of earth at the site of the future Berezovskiy open-cut coal mine experimental sector. Thus a start was made on the Kansko-Achinskiy fuel-energy complex. The largest complex of this type is in Tennessee. It has 31 thermal power stations with a total capacity of 13 million kilowatts. But the first two power stations of the Kansko-Achinskiy complex will achieve the same capacity. And in the initial stage alone of the fuel basin's development, the creation of eight of these power stations is planned. The total capacity of thermal power stations here could be increased to 100 million kilowatts.

Fuel for the new GRES's will be provided by the coal basin with deposits stretching along the Trans-Siberian main railroad for almost 800 km. The thickness of the seam is as much as 100 meters in places. According to forecasts, it is possible in the foreseeable future to extract up to 1 billion tons of fuel here annually. Will not this underground storehouse vanish before our eyes? The geologists have calculated that even with mining on such an enormous scale, the reserves will last for hundreds of years. Some 140 billion tons of coal suitable for open-cut working alone have been surveyed.

The construction of the complex is a vital necessity. It is calculated that in the regions of rapidly developing Siberia alone, electricity requirements in the 11th 5-Year Plan period will increase yearly by 16-18 billion kilowatt hours. This is equivalent to the annual output of the very large Krasnoyarsk GES. The Kansko-Achinskiy fuel and energy complex must make up this deficit, which is already making itself felt. One can understand why the 25th CPSU Congress devoted prime attention to this construction.

Working is getting underway here now. One year ago the Katekenergostroy [presumably Kansko-Achinskiy fuel and energy complex power installation construction] trust was created. From the beginning of the 5-year plan the trust and its forerunner--the construction administration--have formed quite a large collective, supplied people with accommodation, commissioned materials warehouses and storage areas, a garage, a dining room and other installations. Over this period the coalminers opened up the experimental production sector of the mine and recently they extracted their second million tons of fuel. A large proportion of it was sent to Krasnoyarsk TETS-1 where the experimental combustion of the distinctive Kansko-Achinskiy coals was organized.

Yes, work is already in progress. But if we glance at the next 5-year plan it is clear that only a little has been done so far. In 4 or, at the latest, 5 years the first 800,000-kilowatt power unit is to be producing current. However, the power station site is totally bare at the moment apart from a post with the inscription: "Site of the future Berezovskaya GRES-1." Some 12 km from here stands another wind-whipped notice saying "Site of the future Berezovskiy No 1 open-cut mine." There is no doubt that both the station and the mine will come into being. The question is how soon.

The power industry workers' young construction and installation trust is experiencing a difficult initial formation period. It was able to fulfill its first annual plan by only 72 percent. Moreover, efforts and resources were spread so thinly over so many projects that at the current pace it would take about 10 years to complete the projects started. An imbalance in cadres has developed. A considerable proportion of the engineers and technicians have had insufficient education. But 66 specialists with diplomas ended up doing laborers' jobs. An attempt was made to introduce team contracting but this did not take root. Communists self-critically spoke of both these misfortunes at the recent first meeting of the trust's party and economic aktiv.

"This year", said A. Maksyutenko, the trust's chief engineer, "we are faced with bringing about an organizational, structural and personnel reorganization, and increasing the capacity of each subdivision so that we are not caught unprepared in 1980."

This is a reliable reference point. The last year of the current 5-year plan must be a turning point. We must be ready to assimilate large resources and take on many people. For this a firm foundation must be laid for the construction industry. And here we cannot do without efficient help from the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification.

The situation is more difficult with respect to the creation of the basic Berezovskiy No 1 open-cut mine. The tiny local construction administration clearly lacks forces and resources. Approximately R350 million must be assimilated in creating the first stage of the mine alone. But the administration has been allocated R2 million for the current year.

The problems are not new. The administration should have assimilated around R16 million since the beginning of the 5-year plan. But it has assimilated less than half. Administration chief V. Mitin said that the plan has not been met because of a shortage of manpower and earth-moving equipment, especially large-capacity dump trucks. The funds allocated by the Ministry of the Coal Industry were too modest to provide a suitable base for organizing work on a broad front. The leaders of the Krasnoyarsk open-cut mine construction trust frankly admit:

"At the moment the coalminers are merely watching how events will develop.

"It is necessary to begin virtually from scratch."

"At the moment we have one excavator removing the top soil," said V. Gubich, director of the open-cut mine currently under construction. "Next year we will begin the stripping work and start lowering the subsurface watertable."

The chief factor here is powerful equipment. A pool of large-capacity dump trucks is needed to shift massive amounts of rock quickly. Without them it will, of course, be impossible to "lay bare" the coal seams and begin fuel extraction on a wide scale.

"We insist," said V. Pichugin, chief of the Krasnoyarskiy Kraykom coal industry sector, "that the ministry quickly create a combine subordinate to the all-union Soyuzshakhtostroy association. It must be a powerful combine since an ordinary trust cannot cope with the work."

In Sharypovo, in many kray organizations, in scientific research institutes and trusts--wherever there was talk about the construction industry base--the magic word "coordination" began to crop up. Coordination of plans, thatis. [paragraph continues]

At the beginning of 1977, the Krasnoyarskpromstroyniiproyekt institute was instructed to formulate proposals on the Sharypovo industrial center. It is to incorporate around 30 large enterprises and installations which would insure the construction of the thermal power station, the open-cut mine and the new city. It includes a regional base providing all the production equipment the power workers might need, a similar base for coalminers, and installations for the center as a whole: a prefabricated housing combine, a plant producing ferroconcrete items, a timber processing plant, a mechanical repair plant and other installations without which there would be no point in embarking on a major construction project.

At the end of 1977 Krasnoyarskpromstroyniiproyekt submitted its views to a number of ministries and departments. Having received the comments on these the institute polished up the plan and recirculated it. The Ministry of the Coal Industry approved the plan but the power men balked at it. Since then a mighty tome of supplements has been written based on observations received, the schedule for the delivery of the plan has not yet been met and the requisite coordination has not been achieved.

And it is not a question of the Krasnoyarsk planners' work indicators. The fact is that USSR Gosstroy was late in commissioning the planning of an industrial base which would take into consideration interdepartmental interests. Moreover, it took the Krasnoyarsk scientific research institute quite a long time to bestir itself in the initial stages. Meanwhile the power men instructed the Rostov branch of the Teploelektroproyekt institute to develop their base without regard for other departments' demands. This was done.

Now it turns out that the Rostov planners' version differs in several respects from that of the Krasnoyarsk planners. For over a year workers at the sector and territorial institutes have been working overtime, refuting each other and writing papers.

Until matters are "agreed upon" and "sorted out" the power construction workers will not twiddle their thumbs but will implement their own institute's plan on the sly, plans which sometimes clearly contradict common interests and commonsense. It was suddenly discovered today that the power construction workers had ignored sanitary and epidemiological norms and laid a railroad spur which split the future housing area and production zone into two parts. Everybody now realizes that the railroad is in the wrong place and that it should run through the northern outskirts of the industrial zone far away from housing and the planned medical institutions. The power men themselves admit this but they continue to stick to their guns: Around R600,000 have already been invested in this spur. Moreover, dismantling the track and transferring it to another place would mean postponing the construction of the production equipment base for 18 months-2 years, which would probably mean disrupting the schedule for commissioning the power station.

Nor is the industrial center insured against similar blunders in the future until it has an approved plan. Obviously it is time USSR Gosstroy put an end to this war, put on its arbitrator's hat and plumped for the rational alternatives.

Part Two of Report

LD301103 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 March 1979 carries on page 2 the second and final 1,500-word part of PRAVDA correspondent V. Prokushev's article: "The Kansko-Achinskiy Fuel Complex". This concluding part, with the subheading "A City of the Future," considers the problems in building a city "of the 21st century," namely Sharypovo, to house some of the Kansko-Achinskiy complex's work force.

The rapid increase in the city's population is outstripping the capacities of the construction organizations so that the ambitious plans are being sacrificed to expedient solutions whereby housing is being built in accordance with obsolete designs which do not satisfy modern requirements. Service enterprises and cultural facilities too cannot keep pace with population growth, and the problems concerning water supplies and a firm agricultural base for the city have not been solved.

RADIO REPORTS SPRING FLOODING IN VARIOUS REGIONS OF USSR

Orel Region River Overflows

LD011716 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

[Text] A sharp rise in temperature and abundant rains have been conducive to a fast thawing of snow in the upper reaches of the Oka. This resulted in a rise of the water level in the Orel region to the 9.5 meter mark. The river has overflowed its banks and flooded some residential districts, the dachas and areas situated on the right shore to the south of the town.

Weather specialists warned of the impending danger in good time. That is why the flood has not caught anyone unawares. Deliveries of food products and essential goods were organized for the inhabitants of the houses cut off by the flood. A round-the-clock watch of rescue teams has also been arranged.

There are no casualties or destruction in the town.

Pripyat River Floods

LD011731 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1700 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

[Text] As a result of severe flooding of the Pripyat River, 35 villages in the Brest area of the western USSR have been cut off. Food and the most essential goods are being brought to the inhabitants by boat and amphibious vehicles. Several thousand people have been evacuated from places where the water is continuing to rise.

Ukrainian Polesye Area

AU301745 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 29 Mar 79 AU

[Report by Volyn radio correspondent Matviy Kozachuk--recorded]

[Text] Volynian Polesye has not experienced such a flood for many years. The Pripyat River and its tributaries, the Stokhod and the Turya, have overflowed. Lakes and ponds have flooded. Winter crop seedings, land amelioration canals and facilities, inter-kolkhoz and dirt roads are under water. The Pripyat River rose to the highest level since the war. In Lyubachev area it reached 3.7 meters above the conventional zero point.

Here is what Pavlo Stepanovych Malynchuk, Lyubomlskiy Raykom secretary, has to say:

[Malynchuk] We anticipated a major flood in the area of the Pripyat and the Stokhod, and for this reason we prepared in advance for the spring flood. The Raykom and Rayispolkom have taken a number of measures.

In particular, farms in the Pripyat and the Stokhod zone were given assistance in transporting fodder to communal stockbreeding farms, fuel and lubricants have been stored for the spring sowing campaign, cooperative society stores have been supplied with sufficient amounts of the most needed commodities and foodstuffs. There are now 12 localities cut off from the rayon center. There are flood commissions working both in the rayon center and under village soviets. They are coordinating the work to restore the destroyed bridges and roads, evacuating the population and taking appropriate steps to eliminate the damage caused by the spring floods. Assistance has been given by industrial enterprise collectives, transport workers both in the rayon center and the oblast. Particularly great and practical assistance has been given by the airport (?staff) in the delivery of bread and other goods.

[Kozachuk] The working people of Kamen-Kashirskiy, Ratnovskiy, Starovyzhevskiy and Lyubomlskiy rayons have mitigated the calamity through self-discipline. All (?operations) to restore normal work in the flooded rayons are coordinated by the oblast flood commission. The pulse of life is normal.

Further Report From Ukraine

AU301746 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 30 Mar 79 AU

[Summary] "The quiet and lazy Polesye rivers are now hardly recognizable," Rovno correspondent Aleksandr Ovramets reports. "From the air one can barely guess the outlines of the Pripyat, the Goryn, the Styr, the Sluch and their numerous tributaries. Water has risen from the banks, flooded the meadows, pastures and winter crop seedings, has cut off dozens of localities from central roads and rayon centers. Communists and local soviet deputies spearheading units of volunteers immediately joined in the struggle against the raging calamity. Fellow countrymen, good people, have offered refuge to those affected, have shared everything they had with them. They rescued communal property, cattle, fodder and seed materials."

Mikhail Leontiyevich Kisil, Rovenskiy Oblispolkom deputy chairman, told Ovramets:

"Commissions for eliminating the effects of the natural calamity have been formed under all rayon and village soviets. There are 100 specialized emergency brigades, as well as 315 brigades formed by enterprises, kolkhozes and sovkhozes with nearly 1,000 necessary machines and pieces of equipment. Additional foodstuff stocks and the most necessary commodities and building materials have been provided. All transportation means have been engaged in delivering them, including helicopters, cross-country and amphibious vehicles. The local people have proved to be highly self-disciplined, conscious and truly brave. The oblast's party and soviet organs are taking all the urgent measures to assist those affected by the flood."

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 30 MARCH-1 APRIL

LD010620/LD020448 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0130 GMT on 30 March reports that sowing teams are out in the sugar beet plantations in the Kuban and that the first 1,000 hectares have been sown. This year sugar beet will be sown on 200,000 hectares in the Kuban.

The radio at 0600 GMT reports that sovkhozes and kolkhozes in Uzbekistan have finished sowing spring crops. Grain crop production this year will increase to 2.5 million tons. In Moldavia, the first 100 hectares of sugar beet have been sown and more than 500 machines are working in the mechanized teams. Fine-fiber cotton is being sown in Tadzhikistan on over 100,000 hectares, which is one-third of the republic's total area for cotton.

At 1600 GMT the radio reports that the fieldwork on the Don is moving northward. Field workers in Oktyabrskiy Rayon in Rostovskaya Oblast began sowing early crops on 30 March. A total of 25 out of the 40 rayons in the oblast have begun fieldwork. Don workers have pledged to harvest no less than 8 million tons of grain crops this year.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0200 GMT on 31 March reports that work to retain melted snow has been carried out on hundreds of thousands of hectares by farmers in Kuybyshevskaya Oblast. In a short time machine operators are to retain snow on 500,000 hectares.

At 0530 GMT the radio reports that 100,000 hectares have been sown to cotton in Uzbekistan. This year Uzbekistan has pledged to sell 5.7 million tons of cotton to the state. In Kirgizia, half the area allocated has been sown to spring crops.

Moscow radio at 0700 GMT reports that the sowing of sugar beet began on 31 March in South Kazakhstan. This year almost 80,000 hectares are devoted to the crop in the republic and farmers there have pledged to harvest at least 2.4 million tons of sugar beet. According to the radio at 1200 GMT, machine operators in Dzhambulskaya Oblast are the first to complete the sowing of early grain crops in Kazkhstan. It has taken 100 hours to sow 236,000 hectares. In Orlovskaya Oblast, all the 550 sowing complexes and large mechanized detachments are ready to begin work.

At 1900 GMT the radio notes that sowing work has begun in Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast. The farmers are trying to fulfill the 5-year plan for the sale of grain to the state a year ahead of schedule. This year they intend to obtain 3.5 million tons of grain.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0900 GMT on 1 April reports that the sowing which has begun in the southern rayons of the Ukraine has now moved across to Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast. First-class seeds have been prepared for the sowing. For the first time the Oblast has pledged to obtain 3.5 million tons of grain. The radio adds that this spring more than 100 million hectares in the country will be sown to spring crops.

At 1400 GMT the radio says that the farms of Saratovskaya and Penzenskaya oblasts have completed reviewing preparations for the spring sowing. Spring crops will occupy some 5 million hectares in Saratovskaya Oblast. The farmers have resolved to take in at least 7 million tons of grain there. It adds that more than 1,000 harvesting-transport complexes set up on the Ipatovo method will be working in Penzenskaya Oblast. The farmers there have resolved to take in no less than 20 quintals of grain per hectare.

At 1600 GMT the radio reports that Ukrainian farmers plan to obtain an average of 300 poods of grain per hectare. According to an official of the Main Directorate for Grain Production of the republic's Agriculture Ministry, the target of 300 poods is quite realistic for many farms in the republic. That is because a good foundation for such a target was laid in the autumn while sowing winter wheat, which is the main grain producing crop here. The best seeds were used, including the high yield ones, such as Dneprovskaya-775, Odesskaya-66 and (?Ovtorchanka). The official adds that continuous top-dressing of all that has been sown with mineral fertilizers is presently underway. A secondary top-dressing will be carried out. Farms are particularly concerned for the areas sown to strong wheats which at present occupy about 500,000 hectares in the republic. He says that almost 96 percent of seeds prepared for the areas to be sown with summer crops are of the first class variety, better than in all past years. Corn seeds are of high quality. The rate of sowing and the quality of work being carried out are high.

At 1900 GMT the radio reports that regarding fieldwork in Penzenskaya and Saratovskaya oblasts, more than 800,000 hectares of irrigated lands and almost 1 million hectares of drained lands are to be brought into agricultural use in the spring this year.

MID-MARCH WEATHER, CROP DEVELOPMENT ASSESSED

LD301545 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[K. Kirilecheva report from USSR hydrometeorology center: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] In the northern half of the European part of the USSR, after prolonged mild weather, a significant fall in temperature was observed in the second 10-day period in March. As a result of the drop in temperature and of snowfalls, the depth of snow cover was not reduced during the 10-day period. In the north of the Central and Volga-Vyatka regions and in places in the Northwest Region it even increased by 10-15 cm. To the south of a line passing through Lutsk, Sumy and Kamyshin, there was no snow cover on the fields on 20 March.

In central oblasts of the Ukraine, as a result of deep freezing and considerable hardening of the soil, the thawing and drying out of the upper strata took place only slowly. By 20 March in these regions the soil had thawed to a depty of 5-8 cm and was very moist.

In Moldavia, the southern Ukraine, the North Caucasus and the lower reaches of the Volga very mild weather prevailed. The average air temperature over the 10 day period was 5-9 degrees, which is 3-6 degrees above normal for this time of year. In the daytime the temperature rose to 12-18 degrees, and up to 20-25 degrees in Krymskaya Oblast and Krasnodarskiy Kray. The warm weather and good soil moisture in these regions promoted the formation of additional shoots on winter crops.

In the Transcaucasus warm, mainly dry weather was observed, favorable for carrying out fieldwork. Apricots and early plums began to blossom 1-3 weeks earlier than usual.

A significant rise in temperature was noted in Central Asia and southern Kazakhstan. The average air temperature in the second 10-day period in March exceeded the normal by 2-4 degrees here. In the daytime the air temperature rose to 18-24 degrees, and up to 25-27 in Turkmenia and the adjacent regions of Uzbekistan. Winter crops were mainly in good condition and winter barley began shooting in some fields. [paragraph continues]

Apricot and plums are in bloom and in places mulberries began to blossom and leaf buds started to open on vines. In the southern regions of Central Asia the soil temperature at a depth of 10 cm reached 12-15 degrees and favorable conditions were created for sowing heat-loving crops.

KOLKHOZ FARM WAGES INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY RECENTLY

LD301318 Moscow TASS in English 1240 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

["Living Standard of Collective Farmers Goes Up"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 30, TASS--The wages of collective farmers in the USSR have been substantially increased in the last few years, writes the AGITATOR magazine. Their incomes were further enhanced by the recent rise of state purchase prices of a number of agricultural products (the retail prices in ships remain unchanged), as a result of which the average monthly pay in collective farms exceeded for the first time 100 roubles, and is now close to the wages in state farms. The remaining differences in pay are explained mainly by lower labour productivity in collective farms, and the fact that collective farmers work less days a year than state farm workers (241 and 276 days respectively). The pensions and social insurance of collective farmers, however, are included in the same nationwide system as everybody else, and grants for children are now paid to farmer's families with lower per capita incomes. Today 11,500,000 collective farmers get pensions, which will be raised by 40 per cent as of January 1, 1980, in accordance with a recently adopted Soviet law.

ALL-RUSSIAN KOLKHOZ COUNCIL MEETS IN MOSCOW

LD010420 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A session of the All-Russian Kolkhoz Council was held in Moscow today. Under discussion were the results of the work in 1978 and the tasks faced by farms in fulfilling plans and augmented pledges for this year in light of decisions of the July and November CPSU Central Committee plenums and directives and recommendations of Comrade Brezhnev.

It was noted that during the 3d year of the 5-year period the grain crop harvest amounted on the average throughout the RSFSR to 19 quintals per hectare. The sale of grain to the state reached almost 30 million tons. The All-Russian Kolkhoz Council made it incumbent on the kolkhoz councils of the autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts and the rayon directorates of farms to continue strengthening the material-technical base and to get rid of the shortcomings which had been noted in the work.

BRIEFS

ACADEMY MEETING--Further improvements in the forms of science-production links are being discussed at the annual general meeting of specialists of the southern branch of the VASKhNiL, which opened in Kiev on 19 March. Participating in the meeting are Borisenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary; Pogrebnyak, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Council of Ministers first deputy chairman; Kovalenko, Agriculture Department Chief in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee; ministers and leaders of organizations and departments associated with agricultural production. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 19 Mar 79 LD]

COSMOS-1090 SPACE EXPLORATION SATELLITE LAUNCHED 31 MARCH

LD011110 Moscow TASS in English 1102 GMT 1 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 1, TASS--The artificial earth satellite Cosmos 1090 was launched on Saturday in the Soviet Union. The satellite carries scientific equipment meant for continuation of space exploration. The satellite was put into orbit with the following parameters: the initial period of revolution 89.8 minutes, the maximum distance from the earth's surface 354 kilometres, the minimum distance from the earth's surface 212 kilometres, inclination of the orbit 72.9 degrees. The equipment is functioning normally.

SALYUT COSMONAUTS CONTINUE MAINTENANCE WORK, PLANT RESEARCH

LD300950 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1540 GMT 29 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The flight of the Salyut-6-Soyuz-32-Progress-5 scientific complex continues. Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin report from orbit: [begin recording]

[First cosmonaut] Hello, respected listeners.

[Second cosmonaut] Good day.

[First cosmonaut] Our working day began today an hour earlier than usual, since we were beginning the final operations on the unified engine installation.

[Second cosmonaut] In our previous reports we have already mentioned the work connected with fuel lines; this work was completed yesterday, and today we began work on the part concerned with oxidizer. When this work on the unified engine installation is in progress, I am reminded of the process of building the unified engine installation and the difficulties which arose in the process of solving those problems. For the idea was in itself simple enough: refueling the station, but its practical solution turned out to be quite a difficult task for designers. Now we can note with satisfaction that the installation has been working on the station for over 18 months and in general works fine. All kinds of other work are being carried out on the station apart from this.

[First cosmonaut] We are also doing biological experiments. The aim of the research is to study the influence of weightlessness on an organism which requires the force of gravity. The cargo ship has delivered the (?graviostat) apparatus; this is a small centrifuge, with a rotating and static part on which plant seeds are placed. We moistened these seeds and today started up the centrifuge. On earth, the roots grow and incline toward the center of earth, and the stem reaches for the light. But if there is no gravity, how will the plant behave? Previous experiments showed that in weightlessness only the first stage of growth progresses normally, because this is already part of the embryo. But when the plant passes the phase of seed formation, the normal processes are disrupted. Cell structures are destroyed. This has already been confirmed on the first [words indistinct] expeditions. The cargo ship has also delivered the Fiton apparatus in which we have sown seeds using our space seeder [kosmicheskaya seyalka] and we are now observing the growth and development of the plants. These are the experiements we are carrying out.

[Second cosmonaut] Goodbye, until our next meeting.

CORRECTION MADE TO ORBIT OF SALYUT SPACE COMPLEX

LD301424 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1346 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 30 March--The special TASS correspondent reports from Flight Control Center: Today, with the help of the propulsion system of the Progress-5 ship, a correction in the trajectory of the Salyut-6-Soyuz-32-Progress-5 orbital complex was carried out. After the correction, the parameters of the complex's orbit now are: apogee--357 kilometers; perigee--284 kilometers; period of revolution--90.6 minutes; inclination of orbit 51.6 degrees.

Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin are continuing the planned program of work on the orbit around the earth. On completing preparatory operations, including pumping out pressurization gas and checking fuel supply lines and equipment, the station's propulsion system was topped up with an oxidizing agent. The topping-up process was controlled by the crew and specialists from the Flight Control Center. Experiments with the small-dimension Yelena gamma-telescope are continuing. The cosmonauts have carried out the redischarge [pererazryadka] of the cassettes of the instrument and have installed it in the station's scientific apparatus compartment.

The cosmonauts are supervising the operations of the apparatus earmarked for biological experiments, are observing the development of plants and are doing physical exercises on a training machine and a veloergometer.

The cosmonauts feel fine. The onboard systems and scientific apparatus of the complex are functioning normally.

SCIENTISTS WORKING ON GIANT TELESCOPE FOR SOLAR ORBIT

LD020959 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian on 24 March publishes on page 4 a 1,400-word article by M. Larin under the heading "The Voice of a Distant Star: A Bold Scientific Project." The article discusses the potential uses of a giant radiotelescope in solar orbit, and argues that with "existing space technology" it is possible to "talk seriously of the possibility of constructing a telescope of any size in space." Larin describes a telescope with "a diameter of, say, 10 km," the orientation of each cell controlled from earth, and states that "such a telescope, which is being designed by a group of Soviet scientists, will greet the space traveller in solar orbit in the not too distant future."

TURKMEN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES STUDYING SOLAR POWER

LD020947 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian on 24 March publishes on page 4 a 1,000-word report from Turkmenia by SELSKAYA ZHIZN correspondent S. Kim under the rubric "Keeping Pace With the Researcher," headed "Harnessing the Sun." Kim reports on work taking place at the Turkmen Academy of Sciences Solar Research Center, at Bekrova, near Ashkhabad, in the foothills of the Kopet-Dag range. The scientists intend to "establish a solar power station on one of the southern slopes of the Kopet-Dag range in the near future," to provide power for irrigation work. The report surveys various solar energy projects in the republic and notes that the institute is also carrying out other research "of great practical significance for the national economy in the future," in view of the need for an alternative to fossil fuel. It concludes that "the day is not far off when the sun's working ray will be part of our everyday life, in factory shops, fields and livestock units."